DIARY OF BENJAMIN T. HUNTER

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JANUARY 1-Tuesday. "New Year's Day" - weather cold. Spent last night at
Rev. W. H. Clarke's. Mr. C. & I went to "Brightwater" - had a run-a-way
scrape with "Charlie Fox" - shot 3 Partridges and 2 Doves.

JANUARY 2-Wednesday. Election day in Lithonia. Voted a "secession Ticket -
very wet and disagreeable day - returned to Clarke's.

JANUARY 3-Thursday. Rode with Mr. C. this morning to Brightwater - purchased
his horse, buggy & saddle. Mrs. C. and Mrs. Ragan returning from down the
country. Went hunting - shot a squirrel.

JANUARY 4-Friday. At Bellmont - went to Lithonia this afternoon and moved
up to board with Mr. Clarke. Tried my new horse & saddle. Clear tonight
& cold. ("Dumple" is now undressed, reclining beside me.)

JANUARY 5-Saturday. Pleasant day, went to the city and cast my vote for
my old friend "Billie Born."

JANUARY 6-Sunday. A long quiet day - no preaching to attend. Took nap in
afternoon.

JANUARY 7-Monday. My school commenced today - opened with 7 pupils. Com-
menced raining at noon-wet evening. Rec'd Abbeville Banner. Played Game
Backgammon.

JANUARY 8-Tuesday. Rose very cold - still cloudy. No increase in school.
Two negroes, Griffin & Epps came home sick.

JANUARY 9-Wednesday. Cloudy & warm. Rec'd a letter from Dr. Coe of
Atlanta. Answered it.

JANUARY 10-Thursday. Rose very early & dispatched breakfast. Heard news
from Carolina - a dozen rounds fired at the Federal Troops in steamer
"Star of the West." Rec'd Foreign Missionary.

JANUARY 11-Friday. Quite cold - thermometer at 24 degrees - ground frozen
hard. 1st week of school closed with no increase in number of pupils.
Thinking now of handing in my resignation. Commenced a riding whip.

JANUARY 12-Saturday. "Darley" has sick headache. Finished my whip - went
out and shot 4 doves. After dinner went with Mr. C. to Lithonia for Dr.
Means & Mr. Yarbrough. Wrote letter to father.

JANUARY 13-Sunday. Cloudy, Windy & cold. Went to Lithonia to preaching -
dedication of the new Methodist Church. Dr. Means preached from Luke
XXIV-32. Good sermon - large congregation.
Commenced raining at dark. Quite cold.

JANUARY 14-Monday. Raining & cold - some ice. Commenced 2nd week of school
with an increase of five.
Wet day.
JANUARY 15-Tuesday. Wet day and cold. Received Abbeville Banner. Saw Dr. Coe in Lithonia - gave him an order for fifty-one dollars on Mr. Wilson (Ordinary) at Decatur. Thunder storm about dark.

JANUARY 16-Wednesday. Sun shining cheerfully. Received "Federal Union."

JANUARY 17-Thursday. Signs of bad weather. Had lively game of "Ball" at school. John Drake fell and was badly hurt. "Colporteur" in town. Bought 5 Testaments and gave to Drake children. Commenced raining at 8 o'clock P.M.

JANUARY 18-Friday. Very wet day - at one time thought it too bad a day for school. Thunder and hard rain last night - creeks full. 15 pupils in school today. Dismissed early.

JANUARY 19-Saturday. Sun shining, though a little hazy. Spent the morning at home. Made a "secession" watch guard. Went to Lithonia to Post Office in afternoon. Rec'd letter from Dr. Coe. Mr. Mashburn at Mr. Clarke's.


JANUARY 22-Tuesday. The thermometer stands at 32 degrees - windy and unpleasant. Cloudy in afternoon. Roads beginning to dry.

JANUARY 23-Wednesday. Rainy & blustering - very cold and disagreeable. Rain freezes on the trees. "Dolce" quite sick all day. Mr. Mashburn at Mr. Clarke's - detained by bad weather. No school today - too cold to turn out. Wrote to Sister E.B.C.

JANUARY 24-Thursday. Wet day and cold. 22 pupils in attendance. Road muddy and creeks high.


JANUARY 26-Saturday. Rained all night - stormy about daylight - sun shone few minutes in morning - then became cloudy again. Cleared off late in evening. Killed a squirrel and three doves. Spent day at home.

JANUARY 27-Sunday. Bright and beautiful day. Preaching in Lithonia - staid at home with Dumble.


JANUARY 29-Tuesday. Pretty day - weather moderating - clear. Tried experiment with drying "gum mucilage."

JANUARY 30-Wednesday. Pleasant - clear weather continues.
JANUARY 31-Thursday. Quite warm for the season. Signs of rain. Rec'd money ($115.85) by Esq. Born from Decatur.

FEBRUARY 1-Friday. Cloudy - heavy rain in evening - rode home through rain. Creeks rising rapidly. Had compositions and declamation in school.

FEBRUARY 2-Saturday. Very wet - rained hard all night. The creeks fuller than they have been for years. Much damage done - bridges gone etc. Spent day at home sewing on needle book for Mrs. C.

FEBRUARY 3-Sunday. Still cloudy and little rain. Spent day at home. Dull time.

FEBRUARY 4-Monday. Cleared up today. Everything passed as usual. Entered upon the 5th week of my school - no additions.

FEBRUARY 5-Tuesday. Beautiful weather. Enjoyed a game of Ball at school.

FEBRUARY 6-Wednesday. Heavy frost this morning. Clear & pleasant day. "Charley Fox" became frightened at Brantly's mule and came within an ace of throwing me. Had rare sport rooking said mule in company with Albert C. & Dave Chandler.

FEBRUARY 7-Thursday. Weather moderating. Rev. Mr. Mashburn spent night with Mr. Clarke.

FEBRUARY 8-Friday. Had composition & declamation in school. At night attempted to make a Kaleidoscope and succeeded beyond my expectations.

FEBRUARY 9-Saturday. Finished my Kaleidoscope. In afternoon went to Lithonia - met Board of Trustees, had my rules adopted etc. and reached home late in evening.

FEBRUARY 10-Sunday. Spent day at home. Read, talked etc.

FEBRUARY 11-Monday. School opened with addition of one.

FEBRUARY 12-Tuesday. Rec'd letter from Father.

FEBRUARY 13-Wednesday. Received "Southern Federal Union."

FEBRUARY 14-Thursday. Stormy in morning cleared off about eleven. Alonzo C. Giles & Elmira Philips married tonight. --- rec'd no "Valentine."

FEBRUARY 15-Friday. Rode to Lithonia in buggy to have it repaired. Composition & declamation in school. Very windy, clear.

FEBRUARY 16-Saturday. Had rare sport with the boys making & flying kites. Cloudy & windy.


FEBRUARY 18-Monday. My "birthday" - 26 years old today. Another mile-post passed - thus time flies - but let it go.
FEBRUARY 19-Tuesday.


FEBRUARY 21-Thursday.

FEBRUARY 22-Friday. Declamation in school.

FEBRUARY 23-Saturday. Wet day, spent day at home. Rev. Elija Clarke, Rev. B. Chandler, Rev. R. Jones, Dr. Avary & Mr. Braswell spent night with Mr. Clarke (delegates to Quarterly Meeting.)

FEBRUARY 24-Sunday. "Quarterly Meeting" at Lithonia. Mr. Yarborough preached from Ex. XXIII-30 - Communion day. Cold & windy.


FEBRUARY 26-Tuesday. Rec'd letter from Theo Hunter.


FEBRUARY 28-Thursday. Beautiful day - clear, warm & pleasant. Painted my "prize" kite.

MARCH 1-Friday. Beautiful Spring weather. Compositions in school.

MARCH 2-Saturday. Spent the fore-noon at home making storm-glass - "Chemical Barometer." Went to Lithonia in after-noon with the "old woman."

MARCH 3-Sunday. Spent day at home - took nap in morning.

MARCH 4-Monday. "March 4" - the day for Lincoln to be inaugurated. Rec'd Banner & For. Missionary.

MARCH 5-Tuesday.

MARCH 6-Wednesday.

MARCH 7-Thursday.

MARCH 8-Friday.

MARCH 9-Saturday. Spent day at home. Made "Bagnetelle Table."

MARCH 10-Sunday. Started to the "Hard-shell church" but hearing there would be no preaching, returned. Windy day.


MARCH 12-Tuesday.

MARCH 13-Wednesday. Went home at noon and took India to Lithonia. Rec'd "Fed. Union."


MARCH 14—Thursday. Bought part of hog from Mr. Clarke – took head, jole etc to negroes at Lithonia.

MARCH 15—Friday. Composition & Declamation in school.

MARCH 16—Saturday. Went with India to Atlanta on a "shopping excursion" – drove Charley-fox to the buggy.

MARCH 17—Sunday. Attended church in Lithonia. Mr. Mashburn preached.

MARCH 18—Monday. Clear & pleasant in morning but commenced raining with thunder about 10 o'clock. Wet day – no news from the war.

MARCH 19—Tuesday.

MARCH 20—Wednesday.

MARCH 21—Thursday.

MARCH 22—Friday.

MARCH 23—Saturday. Worked at my case of shells.


MARCH 25—Monday. Painted my case of shells & pebbles. Had my cranium sheared by Mr. Tuggle.

MARCH 26—Tuesday. Posted up Rules of School.

MARCH 27—Wednesday. Rec'd Southern Federal Union. Took some meat to my negroes.

MARCH 28—Thursday. Made long kites - named "ABB" (Lincoln). Shaved off a portion of my red whiskers.


MARCH 30—Saturday. Spent most of the day at home – rode to Lithonia in evening – bought two prs. shoes.

MARCH 31—Sunday. Attended church at Rock Chapel – Mr. Mashburn preached. Had a visit from my boys Griffon, Anderson, Epps & Charles.


APRIL 3—Wednesday. Thunder shower early in morning. A. C. Giles returned my "Essays" that he borrowed in '59. Showery all day. Finished "Confederate Flag."
APRIL 4-Thursday. Cool, cloudy & drizzly - Bought some coffee for negroes.


APRIL 6-Saturday. Bad day - rainy. "Cannon shooting" in Lithonia - Flag raised etc.
Went hunting in afternoon and shot 2 squirrels. Drew plot of "Charleston Harbor."

APRIL 7-Sunday. Showery & cloudy all day. Spent day at home.

Sun shone in evening and shower after dark.

APRIL 9-Tuesday. Clear this morning. Ther. 41 degrees.
Commenced my "May-day Banner."
Wrote to Sam'l. Hunter.

APRIL 10-Wednesday. Clear in morning - cloudy in evening - rain after dark.
Rec'd Southern Fed. Union.
India & Miss Julia went to Atlanta.

APRIL 11-Thursday. Cloudy, windy & cold - Rumors of war in Charleston.
Went with Mr. Clark "Blackbirding" in evening - shot 12 to his one.

APRIL 12-Friday. War commenced at Charleston - reports numerous and contradictory.
Thunder shower after dark.

APRIL 13-Saturday. Clear & windy.
Spent morning "mapping" the Harbor of Charleston.
Went to Lithonia in evening to hear "war news."
Shot 5 blackbirds.

APRIL 14-Sunday. Beautiful day. Went to Decatur to church. Mr. Clarke preached Col. Murphy's funeral. Took nap in evening.

APRIL 15-Monday. Clear in morning. Thunder & rain before noon & wet the remainder of the day.

APRIL 16-Tuesday. Cloudy & very windy. Rec'd particulars of the "war" in Charleston.
Selected our "May-pole" and dressed it out.

APRIL 17-Wednesday. Quite cool for the season. Ther. 36 degrees - windy.
In evening went to swamp to shoot blackbirds - had rare sport.

APRIL 18-Thursday. Went "blackbirding" in evening.

APRIL 19-Friday. Weather warm & windy. Had kite flying with little boys.

APRIL 20-Saturday. Spent forenoon painting my May-day Banner - in evening went to Lithonia.

APRIL 21-Sunday. Church at Lithonia. Mr. Mashburn preached, also attended organization of Sabbath-school - was elected assistant superintendent.
APRIL 22-Monday. Went to Decatur to attend on the Grand Jury - was dismissed by Judge Bull. Thence went to Atlanta. Mr. Tuggle came home with me. Report says "Fighting in Baltimore."

APRIL 23-Tuesday. Beautiful weather.
Day passed as usual. Commenced a small Banner for the "Silver Grays" of Lithonia.

APRIL 24-Wednesday. Rode to school in buggy. Had a little fracas with "Charley Fox" when taking him from the buggy.
Rec'd Fed. Union.
Heavy Thunder in afternoon - light sprinkle of rain.
(Took off my under-shirt.)

APRIL 25-Thursday. Weather continues pleasant. Read an account of the "Baltimore fight."
Worked on Flag for "Silver Grays."
Walked to school.
Weather good.

Signs of rain about noon. Shower of rain in night.

APRIL 27-Saturday. Went to Lithonia. Spent day. "Silver Grays" were organized - presented a banner to them. Assisted in forming a "vigilance committee" - was appointed Capt. of "cross-road Squad." Rec'd letter from Father. Theo in the army. Wrote to Father & Theodore.

APRIL 28-Sunday. Attended church in Lithonia. Mr. White preached.
Sunday school & Bible Class organized - was appointed Leader of the Bible Class.

APRIL 29-Monday. Finished my May-day Banner. Saw a run-a-way scrape with the "children," horse & buggy - Charlie-Fox wanted to join the race. The buggy was destroyed but no one hurt. Jackson Underwood left as a volunteer for Richmond.

APRIL 30-Tuesday. Signs of rain. Mr. Latimer left for Washington to join the army.

MAY 1-Wednesday. Merry-May-Day - clear & pleasant. A lively crowd of patrons & pupils in attendance at the Academy pic-nic. Plenty to furnish the tables and a variety to please the fancy. "Haec olim meminisse juvat."

MAY 2-Thursday. Quite cool this morning. "War news" numerous and contradictory. Passed recess by making microscopic observations.

MAY 3-Friday. Morning cool. Rec'd Southern Guardian. Dismissed my school until Monday-week in order to attend a camp musters near Marietta.

MAY 4-Saturday. Went to Lithonia in morning with Mr. Clarke - in evening went hunting - shot snake with my pistol.
Signs of rain in evening - gave out our "Camp Muster excursion."

MAY 5-Sunday. Wet morning - rained all day - spent day at home. Mr. Martin came in evening to spend night with Mr. C.
MAY 6-Monday. Wet morning. Left Lithonia for Rome, Ga. - Reached here (Rome) at 3½ o'clock P.M.
Hard storm while we were at Cartersville.
Air cool.

MAY 7-Tuesday. At Rome. Took a lesson in "oriental painting" and in evening went fishing with J. T. M.
Weather clear & pleasant.

MAY 8-Wednesday. At Rome. Finished my painting. In afternoon went to Depot to see the Military parade etc. The soldiers returned from "Camp Brown."
Walked over the city.

MAY 9-Thursday. In evening went to Mr. Waters with India & Laura Moore.

MAY 10-Friday. At Mr. Thos. Waters 2 miles from Rome. Thunder shower about day-break.
Went fishing with Mr. W - to the "Armuchee" 8 miles from Rome, caught two large trouts.
Returned to Rome.

MAY 11-Saturday. Rose early at took cars for home. Got to Atlanta at 10 o'clock and stayed until 4 - then to Freight train for home.
Arrived safely at home a 8½ o'clock after a delightful visit "up the country."

MAY 12-Sunday. Weather warm & clear.
Went to Lithonia in morning to see my negroes etc. Attended sabbath school in afternoon.

Mr. Latimer returned from the "scene of war."
Thunder shower in afternoon.
Moved our quarters to a room down stairs.

MAY 14-Tuesday. Morning air damp - signs of rain.
In evening went hunting with Mr. Clarke.
Had a case of discipline in school.

MAY 15-Wednesday. Walked to school and took my gun & pistol with me. Shot a dove and other birds.
Etc.
Rec'd Fed. Union.

MAY 16-Thursday. Cool though not unpleasant in the morning. Sent Frank Leslie, containing "Fort Sumpter" etc. to Maj. J.H.C.

MAY 17-Friday. My Mother died two years ago.
Handed in my resignation as principal of Lithonia Academy - to go into effect the 31st of this month.

MAY 18-Saturday. Spent the day at home.
Painted a picture in morning - took nap & went hunting in evening.
The Trustees met & accepted my resignation.

MAY 19-Sunday. Attended church at Lithonia, Mr. Mashburn preached.
Shower in the morning - went to sabbath school at 4 o'clock.

MAY 20-Monday. Hard shower between 7 & 8 o'clock this morning. Report says "fighting at Cairo" (?) Thunder shower after dark.
MAY 21-Tuesday. Rode to school in buggy. No special news from the war. 
Mrs. (Dr.) Bond & Mrs. Underwood spent day at Belmont. 
Fixed a "night lamp."

MAY 22-Wednesday. Cool, windy, cloudy & unpleasant. Capt. Cooper's company 
passed by on cars from Atlanta. 
Rec'd Federal Union from Milledgeville, Ga. 
Wrote to Sister E.B.C. 
Floating clouds moving nearly all day.

MAY 23-Thursday. Rec'd letter from W. R. Pendley Esq., Sec. of Trustees, 
accepting my resignation. 
Morning cool.

MAY 24-Friday. Clear & pleasant. 
Gave in my tax returns, amounting to $825.50

MAY 25-Saturday. Spent morning at home - painted a "Carrot" (Oriental painting). 
In afternoon attended meeting of "Silver Grays" and "Vigilance Committee." 
Wrote to Sister Sarah at night. 
War news from Virginia.

MAY 26-Sunday. Attended church at Lithonia - Mr. White preached. Also attended 
sabbath school in afternoon. Dr. Chapman was elected Superintendent vice Esq. 
Underwood resigned. 
Grisson joined the Baptist Church.

MAY 27-Monday. Wrote to Jas. R. Cunningham (Company D) Charleston, and letter 
for old Jim to his children. 
War news 600 Fed. Soldiers killed & wounded & 50 Southern troops killed etc. 
at Hampton Roads.

MAY 28-Tuesday. Quite cool in morning & warm at noon. Bought a coat for Charles 
from Mayfield Born & Co.

MAY 29-Wednesday. The 1st anniversary of our marriage. Went to Depot with 
pupils to see soldiers pass - a soldier killed (by Yank) at Decatur. 
Closed my school today - forever - instead of Friday next as appointed.

MAY 30-Thursday. Went to Atlanta in buggy - Lewis Bailey with me - visited the 
encampment of Col. Gartrell's regiment. 
Rec'd a letter from Carrie.

MAY 31-Friday. The day appointed for my resignation to go into effect - but 
could not wait, and dismissed on Wednesday last. - Went to Lithonia via Esq. 
Bailey's to take Lewis home. Rec'd letter from W.A.S. Time passed heavily on 
my hands - nothing to do.

JUNE 1-Saturday. Signs of rain - dispatched breakfast - practiced with pistol - 
went to post office - returned - eat dinner - took nap - read newspapers - 
gathered cherries - transplanted some beans - shot a rabbit - and talked till 
bed-time.

JUNE 2-Sunday. Attended sabbath school in afternoon.

JUNE 3-Monday. Went to Atlanta - took Charles for Dr. Coe to examine his leg. 
Returned home before night. 
Great many soldiers in Atlanta.
JUNE 4-Tuesday. Went to Depot to see "French Zouaves" go by.  
Took nap in afternoon.  
Went fishing at "Brightwater" in evening.  
Wrote to Co. F. Gibert.

JUNE 5-Wednesday. Received a letter from father and one from Sister E.B.C. -  
also one from Mr. Shropshire.  
Dr. Mashburn & daughter here.  
Wrote to A. C. Vail, Milledgeville, Ga.

JUNE 6-Thursday. Went to Lithonia - saw news of the death of Douglas. Took nap  
in evening. Walked on farm with Mr. Clarke.  

JUNE 7-Friday. Signs of rain.  
Rec'd Southern Guardian.  
Went to Depot to look for Ringgold Volunteers.

JUNE 8-Saturday. Went to Lithonia in morning and "plum hunting" in evening.  
Rec'd letter from Father.


JUNE 10-Monday. Painted a sign for "Swift & Tuggle" in oriental painting.  
Went with Jennie & Mell to Bright-water after dew berries.

JUNE 11-Tuesday. Practiced in painting - gave Jennie a lesson. Went plum  
hunting in evening.

JUNE 12-Wednesday. Went to Lithonia - Rec'd letter from Sister Sarah.

JUNE 13-Thursday. "Fast day" throughout the Confederate States. Mr. Clarke  
lectured at Lithonia.

JUNE 14-Friday. India went with me to town. Rode with Mr. Tuggle to Wiggin's  
to see his gun etc. Rec'd letter from Powder Mills in Sc. Ca.  
Wrote to L. Carrington & Sister S.T.C.

Elijah Clarke & family here. Practiced with pistol. Mr. Mashburn & Daughter  
came in evening to spend night.  
Shot squirrel.

JUNE 16-Sunday. Weather dry & hot.  
Attended Methodist Church at Lithonia & Sabbath School in afternoon - was  
elected Superintendent.

JUNE 17-Monday. Went to Lithonia - took nap in evening.

JUNE 18-Tuesday. "Dimple" sick in bed nearly all day.  
Went hunting in morning - gathered plums etc.

JUNE 19-Wednesday. Went with Mr. Clarke to Atlanta - spent day there. Called  
at Dr. Fowler's (en route) and collected some money.

JUNE 20-Thursday. Weather warm.  
Made a case & belt for my pistol.  
Went to post office etc.  
India quit giving music lessons to Jennie Clarke.
JUNE 21-Friday. Went hunting - shot partridge. Dumple sick.

JUNE 22-Saturday. Went to Lithonia - put away my chemicals etc in Academy.
Went hunting in evening - shot rabbit.
Rec'd letter from J.H.C.

JUNE 23-Sunday. Attended Church in forenoon (Mr. George) & at night (Mr. Rogers) and Sabbath School in evening. - Making in all three trips to Lithonia to-day.

JUNE 24-Monday. Cloudy in morning - thunder shower in forenoon - every thing looks refreshed. Signs of more rain.
Went to Lithonia to see old Netty who is sick.
Extravagant reports about the war.

JUNE 25-Tuesday. Clear in morning - several showers during the day. Painted glass for a "work box" - new style.
Experimenting with matches etc. Made a few.

JUNE 26-Wednesday. Light shower. Spent day at home.

JUNE 27-Thursday. Worked at my fancy box. Col. Swift, Miss Jennie & Miss Douglas made a call in evening.
Had shower during their stay here.

JUNE 28-Friday. Went to the city etc.
Light shower in evening.

JUNE 29-Saturday. Went hunting in morning. Rec'd letter from W. J. Underwood containing a piece of the famous "Harriet Lane" - wrote to "W.J.U." enclosing $6.00.

Rev. J. T. Boozer preached at 4 o'clock P.M.

JULY 1-Monday. Commenced review of some of my old Text Books. Began Calvin's Instutute etc.
Gathered black-berries to make cordial.

JULY 2-Tuesday. Went to Lithonia & purchased one gallon of Brandy and made it up into cordial (for next year).
A splendid Comet made its appearance in the north tonight.

JULY 3-Wednesday. Rec'd Fed. Union.
Went hunting with Mr. C. in morning - shot a dove. Fixed knife & sheath to my shot bag.

JULY 4-Thursday. 4th of July - no celebration. Commenced raining about 8 o'clock this morning and rained steadily ever since. B't pr. shoes from "Mayfield Born & Co."
Am trying to sell my horse.

JULY 5-Friday. Hard showers in morning. Cleared off about noon. Mr. Clark & I went to Lith. Collected some money from E. J. Bailey Esq.

JULY 6-Saturday. Rode to town in morning. Spent afternoon at home. Made preparations to leave for Rome.

JULY 7-Sunday. Attended Sabbath School & preaching at Lithonia in afternoon - Mr. Clarke.
JULY 8-Monday. Left Lithonia for Rome—had a pleasant trip—arrived safely. Subscribed to the "Daily Confederacy" for 4 months.

JULY 9-Tuesday. At Rome. In morning strolled over town. Storm with wind & thunder in evening.

JULY 10-Wednesday. Clear & hot. Attended prayer meeting in City Hall in morning & at Baptist church at night.

JULY 11-Thursday. Roamed over Rome. Attended Presbyterian prayer meeting at 5 o'clock. Delightful to meet with my own people once more.

JULY 12-Friday. Spent day principally reading.

JULY 13-Saturday. Went fishing in morning with Laura & Fannie (no luck) and to the Foundry, Boats etc. in evening. Saw a cannon cast.

JULY 14-Sunday. "Welcome delightful morn." Attended Baptist Sabbath School—preaching at Pres. church—communion season. It was good to be there.

JULY 15-Monday. Half-past eleven P.M.—at Kingston waiting for the train—"boring" times!! Left Rome at 8 tonight, on a visit to Lithonia.

JULY 16-Tuesday. Atlanta—Arrived here at 2½ o'clock this morning. Slept tolerable well while travelling here—am now seated in car waiting impatiently the "starting hour"—Commenced raining about & hour ago. Met with D. N. Speer & C. G. Welborn. --- Reached Lithonia in due time & walked to Belmont.

JULY 17-Wednesday. Went to Lithonia in morning and in afternoon to Elijah Clarke's. Spent night. Thunder shower about dark.

JULY 18-Thursday. Went to Atlanta with Mr. C. to sell my horse—made a conditional trade.
Saw Mr. & Mrs. Nisbet in Atlanta.
Several hard showers during the evening.
Wrote to Cephe DeLounay.

JULY 19-Friday. Went to Lithonia in morning and to "Bright-water" in afternoon to meet Mr. Gunby of Atlanta to whom I sold my horse (Charlie) for $175.

JULY 20-Saturday. Left Lithonia for Rome on morning train. Met with my old friend Rev. McDuffie at Cartersville.

Presbyterian church, Rev. J. L. Wilson, in afternoon & Methodist church at night.
(Great Battle at Manassas.)

JULY 22-Monday. Woke up this morning and found it raining.
News came of a dreadful battle at Manassas—glorious Southern victory. No particulars.
Very heavy rain in afternoon. Had a pleasant chat with Dr. Murphy.

JULY 23-Tuesday. At Rome.
Intense excitement—no particulars from the war. Report says George Stovall killed.

JULY 25-Thursday. Quite cool this morning. Nothing definite from the seat of the war.

JULY 26-Friday. Excitement continues. Vague - indefinite rumors from Virginia. Commenced reading "Everglades camp fires of etc.

JULY 27-Saturday. Visited Depot to hear the news. Attended a public meeting in City Hall - addresses by Rev. Mssrs. Hinton & Clarke. Visited the Foundry and witnessed the process of rifling cannon etc.

JULY 28-Sunday. News more favorable but not yet definite. Attended church at Episcopal --- Rev. Mr. Clarke. Received a letter from brother Theodore.

JULY 29-Monday. Spent day mostly in reading. Wrote to Father.

JULY 30-Tuesday. Wrote to Rev. W. H. Clarke. Lieu. Hull returned from Manassas bringing with him a Yankee overcoat, a pistol etc.

JULY 31-Wednesday. Went to "Big Shanty" to attend the general review of 4th Brigade - returned to Kingston on extra train & spent night. Day very warm - large crowd in attendance. Became acquainted with Rev. C. A. Croly.

AUGUST 1-Thursday. Left Kingston on morning train and arrived at Rome in due time. Took nap in afternoon. Weather hot.

AUGUST 2-Friday. Walked to depot after breakfast to gather news.

AUGUST 3-Saturday. Visited "New Bridge" & Foundry. Wrote to Sister EBC. In afternoon attended a "Justice's Court" - heard a school teacher tell of two "exaggerated" men fighting.

AUGUST 4-Sunday. Attended Prs. Sabbath School - was pressed into service. In afternoon Dr. Wilson addressed the sabbath school. Rec'd a roll of Capt. Glensc's Company containing 13 of my school-boys.

AUGUST 5-Monday. Wrote to Rev. W. C. Clarke, proposing to teach gratuitously at Lithonia for benefit of the soldiers. But little news by mail.

AUGUST 6-Tuesday. Cars "ran off the track" near Kingston, breaking Engineer's leg, and were delayed till after night. Saw a new model of breech-loading cannon invented in Savannah. Saw some experiments with it in shooting etc. Wrote for last week's issue of "Confederacy."

AUGUST 7-Wednesday. Attended Union Prayer meeting and addresses by H. Gartrell, Esq. & Col. Fouche. Cars late. Went to Post Office after tea thence to wharf with Mrs. J. T. Moon, Mrs. Stewart & Laura to see steamboat come up.

AUGUST 8-Thursday. Cloudy - appearance of rain. A memorable event transpired today!! BABY born at 6 o'clock P.M. - a nine pounder!! "Fannie Terry."

AUGUST 10-Saturday. Signs of rain. Mrs. Shropshire (of Ringgold) came - presented me with trophies from the Battle Field of Manassas.

AUGUST 11-Sunday. Spent day at home with India and "Baby." Went to wharf in afternoon to see boat come up with soldiers. Attended church (Baptist) at night.


AUGUST 13-Tuesday. Showery - signs of more rain. Bought a Scrap book to preserve "war items" etc. Mrs. Shields, Mrs. Burney & Miss B. here - went with them to Depot.

AUGUST 14-Wednesday. Boat arrived loaded with soldiers. Went with Laura to Depot to see soldiers etc. Considerable excitement.

AUGUST 15-Thursday. Baby week old today. Another boat arrived with two companies making in all six companies within last few days. Reports say Gen. Lyons killed.

AUGUST 16-Friday. Rec'd letter from Miss Julia Kirby (for Mr. Clarke) & one from Cephalie DeL. Bought map of seat of the war. News of another battle near Springfield, Mo.

AUGUST 17-Saturday. Wet day. Mrs. Shropshire left for home - Ringgold. News confirmed of battle at Springfield & Leesburg.

AUGUST 18-Sunday. Sun-shine & showers. Attended Baptist Church - Rev. Mr. Stillwell. "Darly" not well today - had a chill & hot fever.

AUGUST 19-Monday. Day passed pretty much as usual - hot & sultry a part of the day - several showers in afternoon. Called (with Laura) on Mrs. Murphy.

AUGUST 20-Tuesday. Wrote to W. L. Born Esq. proposing to teach 3 months at Lithonia for benefit of soldiers (my enlisted school-boys). Signs of rain - air hot & close.

AUGUST 21-Wednesday. Received a letter from Sister Sarah. Attended Prayer Meeting and Ladies' Soldiers Relief Society. Attemptin to take impression of baby's foot in wax, but without success.

AUGUST 22-Thursday. Baby two weeks old - took impression of her little foot in chalk plaster. Went to the wharf to see steam-boat come up. Bought sheet of gilt paper. Heavy rain in after-noon.

AUGUST 23-Friday. Wet morning - very hard rain until middle of fore-noon. In evening went to Foundry. Drew up a "constitution" for "Soldier's relief Society." (model)

AUGUST 24-Saturday. Rather cool for the season. Spent day at home. India sick with head-ache and sore breast.

AUGUST 25-Sunday. Morning cool. Mr. Jordan Reese who was wounded at Manassas and died since was buried at 10 o'clock with military honors at "Cemetery Hill." India quite sick - called in Dr. Word.
AUGUST 26-Monday. India sick. West to Depot to see a company of Soldiers leave - a company came this afternoon on steam-boat, will leave tonight on train.

Commenced a slow & steady rain about sun-set.

AUGUST 27-Tuesday. Rained all night - cloudy today with with several showers. Made a case for my "baby track."
Rec’d letter from W. L. Born Esq. tendering me the school at Lithonia (to teach for benefit of soldiers.

AUGUST 28-Wednesday. Wet and gloomy most of the day. Several very hard showers fell in the after-noon.

Finished my "baby foot impression" etc.

Wrote to W. L. Born esq.

AUGUST 29-Thursday. More rain. Mrs. Butter died last night & was buried this afternoon.

Went to Foundry with Mr. Watters.

All fixed labels to my batch of curiosities, throphies, etc.

Still raining 9 o’clock P.M.

AGUST 30-Friday. Weather clear. Day passed as usual. Bought a pipe and tobacco.

AGUST 31-Saturday. Felt shock of earth-quake about day-break. Smoked my pipe after breakfast & took game Backgammon with Laura.

Rec’d letter from Father. News that Fort Hatteras taken by the Yankees.

SEPTEMBER 1-Sunday. Attended church at Episcopal - Rev. Mr. Ester, and preaching at M. E. Church at night.


SEPTEMBER 3-Tuesday. Attended Soldiers Relief Society. Bought some Merit Cards.

Wrote to Sister E.B.C.

Went with Mr. Watters to Foundry ’ rail-road bridge- gathered some rotten stone.

SEPTEMBER 4-Wednesday. Took long walk to "Wild Cat Cove," mysterious branch etc. Finished readin "Pillow of Fire."

SEPTEMBER 5 - Thursday. Wrote to Father.

Spent day at home, packed up my trunk to leave for Lithonia.

Rec’d letter from Dr. W. P. Bond, stating that Adam was sick. Left Rome at 8 o’clock P. M. with Miss Allman.

SEPTEMBER 6-Friday. In Atlanta, - arrived here at 3½ O’clock on crowded train. Hard rain just at day-break.

Reached home (Lithonia) on ten o’clock train and went to Belle-Monte.

SEPTEMBER 7-Saturday. Went to Lithonia and spent fore-noon there. Took long nap in afternoon.

"Turned out" my whiskers.

SEPTEMBER 8-Sunday. Wet morning - cleared up by noon.

In evening took walk with Mr. Clarke to old Ebenezer Church.

SEPTEMBER 9-Monday. Went to Lithonia. Wrote to India & to Mr. Wynn, (legatee of Locklin Johnson's estate).
SEPTEMBER 10—Tuesday. Went with Mr. C. to Lithonia—took dinner at Col. Swift's & went with him to his plantation in after-noon. Spent night with Col. S. Rec'd Fed. Union.

SEPTEMBER 11—Wednesday. At Lithonia. Bought some meat & Molasses for my negroes. Rec'd letter from India stating her sickness etc. Walked to Belmont. Made preparations to leave for Rome tomorrow.

SEPTEMBER 12—Thursday. Left Lithonia for Rome. Reached Rome at 3 1/2 o'clock. Rail-road bridge at Yarborough fell immediately after the train had passed, breaking a man's leg.

SEPTEMBER 13—Friday. At Rome. Spent day at home—called in Dr. Word to see India. Heard an Indian preach at Baptist Chruch at night—subject "The broad road to destruction."
Commenced my Scrap-book.


SEPTEMBER 15—Sunday. Cool, clear and quiet. Staid at home in fore-noon with India.

SEPTEMBER 16—Monday. Was taken with bad cold last night. Worked at my scrap-book.


SEPTEMBER 18—Wednesday. Cool this morning & foggy.

SEPTEMBER 19—Thursday. Nothing of importance transpired today.

SEPTEMBER 20—Friday. In evening went to Foundry. Sent my School report to J. B. Wilson (Ordinary), Decatur, Ga.

SEPTEMBER 21—Saturday. Assisted Laura in making a Confederate Flag for C. A. Smith to go to Virginia on train etc.

SEPTEMBER 22—Sunday. Attended Church at Baptist in morning—Methodist at night.

SEPTEMBER 23—Monday. Wrote to Rev. W. H. Clarke & to Father. Went out to Mr. Watters with India & little Fannie.

SEPTEMBER 24—Tuesday. Went to River to gather muskadines. Came to town in evening.

SEPTEMBER 25—Wednesday. Went hunting on "Armuchee"—had squirrel barbecue—pleasant time on the River—shot some doves, a duck, squirrel etc.

SEPTEMBER 26—Thursday. Went to town (Rome) — made a visit to Foundry to see VanHauton's new model breech-loading cannon. Hard rain in evening.
SEPTEMBER 27—Friday. (At Mr. Watters). Spent day. Made Fannie a little "porte-monnie."
Cold & windy, rained all last night.

SEPTEMBER 28—Saturday. (At Mr. W.) Spent day with India & Fannie.
Quite cold - nearly cold enough for frost.


SEPTEMBER 30—Monday. In the country at Mr. Watters. Spent day - India sick.

OCTOBER 1—Tuesday. Returned with India & Baby to town (Rome).
Wrote to Col. W. G. Gill, to John M. Born, Jr. & to Hon. E.A.M.


OCTOBER 3—Thursday. Cloudy - rainy appearance.

OCTOBER 4—Friday. Made a small "Confederate Flag" for Fannie. Weather warm.

OCTOBER 5—Saturday. walked out to Rail-road bridge - to Foundry - called at book-store etc.
Some appearance of rain.

Wet evening. Several very hard showers.

OCTOBER 7—Monday. Cloudy & warm - commenced raining early in the day. Cleared off in afternoon - warm at night.
Made preparations to return to Lithonia but was detained by sickness of Fannie.

OCTOBER 8—Tuesday. Cool this morning - first frost this fall. Fannie still sick, but better than was yesterday.

OCTOBER 9—Wednesday. Clear & cool - no frost but heavy dew. Wrote to Lizzie Gibert & to W. M. Shropshire Esq. Rec'd letter from Father & J. H. C.
Left Rome at 7 o'clock for Lithonia.

OCTOBER 10—Thursday. Just arrived in Atlanta (4 o'clock A.M.) by down train from Chattanooga. Reached Lithonia in due time and went home with Mr. Clarke. Shot a squirrel after dinner near the house.

OCTOBER 11—Friday. Went to Lithonia
Wrote to India, enclosing $1.25.

OCTOBER 12—Saturday. Walked with Mr. Swift over his plantation - made arrangements to visit (?) it next year.
Went "Possum hunting" at night with Mr. Clarke - caught 2.

OCTOBER 13—Sunday. No preaching in neighborhood. Went to Lithonia to see my negroes. Rec'd letter from W. M. Shropshire.

OCTOBER 15-Tuesday. Set my negroes to gathering peas at Bright-water (by
cermission of Mr. Clarke).
Went hunting in afternoon.

OCTOBER 16-Wednesday. Went to Brightwater with Mr. C. in morning, and to
Lithonia in evening.
Wrote to India & to Father at night. Commenced raining about 9 o'clock.

OCTOBER 17-Thursday. Wet morning. Spent day at home - shot three squirrels
in after-noon.

OCTOBER 18-Friday. Walked to Lithonia & shot squirrel en route.
Purchased my "house-hold & Kitchen furniture."
Took dinner with Mr. Tuggle and spent night with Col. Swift. Went hunting with
Col. S. in afternoon. Shot a squirrel & 2 hawks.

OCTOBER 19-Saturday. Cloudy in morning, but cleared off early.
Went with Mr. Swift to Decatur.
Saturday night p the "day of rest" draws nigh, "Oh, may my heart in tune be
found."

OCTOBER 20-Sunday. Attended preaching at Lithonia in Methodist Church - Mr.
Mashburn.
Weather very warm.

OCTOBER 21-Monday. Wet & disagreeable day. Spent day at home (Belle Monte).
Looked over my papers, old compositions etc.
Shot a squirrel.

OCTOBER 22-Tuesday. Weather warm & cloudy.
Went hunting in afternoon with Albert & Nelle - shot four squirrels. Took long
walk.
Mr. Mashburn here.
Had a long & warm "gab" with Mr. C. on "negroes marrying" etc.

OCTOBER 23-Wednesday. Walked to Lithonia, took my gun & shot 3 squirrels en
route. Went hunting with Tom & Jno. N. Swift in afternoon.
Wrote to India.
Cloudy day & warm.

OCTOBER 24-Thursday. Walked to town. Received letter from India. Wrote to
Father (for money to pay my tax).
Rode home with Mr. Bostwick (of Conyers).

OCTOBER 25-Friday. Washed my hat, cleaned my over-coat, and made a cap of
home-made jeans.
Rev. Elija Clarke & Family here.

OCTOBER 26-Saturday. Went with Mr. Clarke to Lithonia. Bought pair of boots.
Wet evening.

OCTOBER 27-Sunday. Spent day at home.
Wet morning - clear in afternoon.

OCTOBER 28-Monday. Quite cool. Elija Clarke left for home. Went with Mr.
Clarke to town, borrowed $40.00 of Mr. Clarke. Wrote to Father, making
arrangements to visit Carolina. Walked to Brightwater in after-noon. Wrote
to India at night.
OCTOBER 29-Tuesday. Mr. C. & I went to Decatur & "Camp Kirkpatrick." Enclosed ten dollars to India, mailed at Decatur. Gave in my Confederate tax at Decatur ($7190).
Retired early.

OCTOBER 30-Wednesday. Went to Lithonia. Gave old Jim permission to go with me to Carolina. Received letter from India (Rome). Went hunting and shot 2 squirrels.


NOVEMBER 1-Friday. Cloudy, gloomy & stormy. Left Lithonia this morning - travelled through the storm - am now at Washington - dread my stage-ride tomorrow - still gloomy and showery, (bed-time).

NOVEMBER 2-Saturday. Cloudy, windy & cold - muddy roads, dilapidated stage, & weather-beaten horses. Arrived at Mt. Carmel at 4 o'clock, found no conveyance, and went to Capt. Drennon's.


NOVEMBER 4-Monday. Spent morning at home. Carrie & Sam came. Went to Sam's in evening with Burkehead - spent night. Had old fashioned talk.

NOVEMBER 5-Tuesday. Returned home from Sam's. Wrote a letter (to) India, and one to Capt. Drennon. Spent day at home.

NOVEMBER 6-Wednesday. Went to Lowndesville - spent day - called at Sam's - saw Dr. Lee & family.

NOVEMBER 7-Thursday. J. H. C. & I walked to Albert Clinkscales - bought a two-horse wagon of him, price $65.00 - thence went to John Giles's. Took supper at Sam's - staid until bedtime.

NOVEMBER 8-Friday. Had a wagon frame made. Peter Gibert & T. T. Cunningham came & spent night.

NOVEMBER 9-Saturday. Spent forenoon at home - went to Lowndesville in evening. Purchased some articles of hardware & pottery. Purchased a plane from Sam. Cloudy & windy - weather warm.

NOVEMBER 10-Sunday. Damp, drizzly morning - preaching at Rock River, did not attend (had no saddle).

NOVEMBER 11-Monday. "Packed up" preparatory to leaving for Georgia tomorrow.

NOVEMBER 12-Tuesday. Rose very early, and set out for Ga. Hook of feed-trough broke within ½ mile of home - was detained an hour at shop to have it replaced - reached Lowndesville at eleven o'clock, was detained there till nearly twelve - took dinner & feed mules at two o'clock near "Cook's old ten-yard." Reached Sister's at 7 P.M. - found children on the qui vive.
NOVEMBER 13-Wednesday. At camp in Hart Co. Ga. (9 1/2 o'clock) - travelled nearly 20 miles today. Left Sister's about nine o'clock - travelled with P. G. & Family as far as Evergreen - crossed Savannah at eleven - eat dinner at 12 - 1 o'clock - passed through Hartwell at three, and struck camp at 7. Supper has just been dispatched, fried middling, eggs, coffee, etc.

NOVEMBER 14-Thursday. Rose at four, and prepared for breakfast. Left camp at "day-break" - crossed Broad River at eleven, noticed wagon tire broken - now (3 o'clock) at Danielsville having wagon repaired. Left Danielsville & struck camp 7 miles from Athens. Signs of rain.

NOVEMBER 15-Friday. Windy & clear. Set out on journey at daylight, reached Athens at 9 o'clock. Stores & shops all closed in observance of "fast day." Wrote a letter to India, but could not get it mailed in Athens. (P. office not open). Crossed Apalachee after dark. Camped 8 miles east of Monroe. Windy at night - cold.

NOVEMBER 16-Saturday. Quite cool - made an early start, arrived at Monroe about nine o'clock - eat dinner 5 miles from Logansville (east). Passed through Logansville at 3 o'clock, crossed Rock-Bridge at 7 P.M. and arrived at Lithonia at ten o'clock - glad to get home - had supper prepared & spent balance of night with J. M. Born at Store.

NOVEMBER 17-Sunday. Took breakfast at Col. Swift's - rec'd letter from India. Col. S. took me home in buggy & staid until morning. Wrote to India.


NOVEMBER 19-Tuesday. Another smoky day. Walked to Lithonia. Spent evening at home - took map in afternoon.

NOVEMBER 20-Wednesday. Rose and hour before daylight. Cloudy - appearance of rain. Several light showers through the day. Rec'd letter from India - wrote to her enclosing $8.00. Went to Lithonia with Mr. C.

NOVEMBER 21-Thursday. Cloudy & foggy in morning - cleared off by noon. Went to Lithonia, thence to "Bobsheela" with Col. Swift & Jno. N. - spent day there. Returned home late in the day.

NOVEMBER 22-Friday. Wet morning. Went to Lithonia to meet India & Miss Julia - was disappointed. Spent day at Lithonia & night with Col. Swift. Thunder shower about dark. Cleared off cold in night.


NOVEMBER 24-Sunday. Spent day at home - reading - nursing "Fannie" etc.

NOVEMBER 25-Monday. Went to Lithonia to ascertain "which way the wind blows." Walked home & spent evening at home.

NOVEMBER 26-Tuesday. Rode to Lithonia with Mr. Clarke - very cold, heavy frost. Hired six of my negroes to Col. Swift - Accepted the school at Lithonia - received 23 subscribed scholars.

NOVEMBER 27-Wednesday. Spent the day at home. Signs of rain. Gathered some Hickory-nuts.
NOVEMBER 28-Thursday. Weather warm - several showers during the day. Rode to Lithonia in afternoon. Sold my mules to Mr. George for $70.00 - Gave "old jim" one dollar to buy molasses.

NOVEMBER 29-Friday. Wet day - showery.
Went to Lithonia with Mr. Clarke - roads wet & heavy.

NOVEMBER 30-Saturday. Stormy all night & blustery this morning - cleared off. Spent forenoon at home reading & writing down recipes.
Went to Lithonia in evening.

DECEMBER 1-Sunday. Beautiful day - quite warm in evening. Spend day mostly reading "Spencer's Sketches" - No preaching near.

DECEMBER 2-Monday. Wet day - several very hard showers. Made out account of "county scholars" to send to the Ordinary - rectified several other accounts.

DECEMBER 3-Tuesday. Spent morning at home - finished "Rosalie DuPont" - Walked to Lithonia in evening - took gun & shot a squirrel & partidge.

DECEMBER 4-Wednesday. Took gun & dog and set out for Lithonia. Shot 3 squirrels on way. Rented house & lot at Lithonia from Mr. George.
Dumple grumbling with backache, headache & other general ailments.

DECEMBER 5-Thursdays. Spent day at home - took short hunt with Mr. Clarke in evening. Commenced reading "Alice Seymour."

DECEMBER 6-Friday. Started to Lithonia very early - on foot. Had my "County School Account" signed by E. A. Turner (J.P.)
Took India to Lithonia in afternoon to inspect our new abode.

DECEMBER 7-Saturday. Cloudy day - went with Mr. Tuggle to Decatur - bought seven chairs of J. W. Kirkpatrick. Mr. K. spoke to me in reference to taking charge of the School at Decatur.

DECEMBER 8-Sunday. A beautiful day - no preaching in neighborhood - spent day at home. Read Pres. Edward's Sermon on "The Final Judgment."

DECEMBER 9-Monday. Weather warm, clear & pleasant. Went to Lithonia -(took "Dumple & Fannie") - to make preparations to move.
Bought 12½ lb. meat @ .16 cent from Mr. Philips - $2.00 - payable Christmas.

DECEMBER 10-Tuesday. A busy day - Moved to Lithonia - spent forenoon in packing up - afternoon in unpacking and arranging.
First night at my new home.
Biscuits, butter, syrup, coffee etc for supper - pretty good start.
Paucline Miles Corrington died.

DECEMBER 11-Wednesday. Feel tired & stupid from yesterday's exertions. Spent day at home "fixing up."

DECEMBER 12-Thursday. Cold & windy - Rec'd a letter from Rev. George Bright of Decatur. My chairs came to hand by down morning freight.

DECEMBER 13-Friday. Went to Mr. Clarke's with John Born - took dinner there - thence to Brightwater. Bought a beef from Henry Burgess $18.00.

DECEMBER 14-Saturday. Muster Day at Lithonia. Had the pleasure (?) of "trotting around" under command of Capt. Maj. Anderson.
DECEMBER 16-Sunday. Beautiful day. Rev. George Bright (circuit rider) preached at Methodist Church. Mr. Mayfield preached at night at Baptist Church.


DECEMBER 18-Wednesday. Clarified my tallow preparatory to making candles. In afternoon went with Mr. George to his plantation.

DECEMBER 19-Thursday. Bought a dining table of Mr. Kinney. Moulded three dozen candles.

DECEMBER 20-Friday. Spent day at home. Sold my pistol to Mr. Tuggle. Signs of rain. Bought some eggs, butter etc.

DECEMBER 21-Saturday. Beautiful day - cooler than yesterday. Bought some crockery of Swift & Tuggle. Preaching at Baptist Church. Rev. Mr. White & "Uncle Andy" took dinner with us - our first guest.


DECEMBER 23-Monday. Very windy and cold. Reel'd keg of apples from Mr. Shropshire, Ringgold. Looked at some cows & calves with a view to buy.

DECEMBER 24-Tuesday. Rode to "Barne's Mills" with Esq. Barnes - bought of him a cow & calf - price $35.00. We see no preparation for Christmas.


DECEMBER 26- Thursday. Employed my negroes to finish negro cabin. Left home at 10 o'clock to spend evening & night with Mr. Clarke.

DECEMBER 27-Friday. Left Mr. Clarke's & set out early for Lithonia. Moved my negroes home from Philip's cabin. Collected some money.


DECEMBER 29-Sunday. Spent day at home - no preaching - prayer meeting at night. G. W. & Columbus Johnson returned from Va.

DECEMBER 30-Monday. Bought some milk pans - put papering on my cup-board - made some envelopes etc. A. C. Giles returned from Virginia.

DECEMBER 31-Tuesday.
DIARY OF

BENJAMIN T. HUNTER

1863
January 1st Thursday. At Lithonia, waiting our time to leave for Decatur. "Packed up" yesterday, had car loaded, but failed to get it off. Spent last night with Col. Swift. In afternoon made effort to leave on both freight & passenger trains, but was "crowded out." We must hide our time.
The old year is numbered with the past - its deeds are the subject of positive history - the new year, that has just dawned so bright & beautiful, has its events veiled in the darkness of futurity. - - - Subscribed for daily "Chronicle & Sentinel."

Friday Jan. 2nd. Another beautiful day. At Col. Swift's. Left Lithonia for Decatur - arrived in due time, had our furniture etc removed to our boarding-house, and worked till bed-time "setting our house in order." Retired to rest "tired down" amid confusion & plunder. "Old 'Oman" ailing, and baby fretting.
Found Mrs. Morgan, my hostess, attentive & kind.

Saturday Jan. 3rd. Cloudy this morning with the appearance of rain.
Made some changes in the arrangement of our furniture etc - spent the day "doing but little." Paid Mrs. Morgan $60 for board.

Sunday Jan. 4th. The day of rest. The morning dawned with showers & gusts of wind - cleared off about 11 o'clock.
Attended church (Presbyterian) - preaching by Dr. Patterson from Text: "I will go to him but he cannot come to me."
Spent evening at home.

Monday Jan. 5th. Beautiful day - pleasant & delightful. The Board Trustees (Decatur Academy) had meeting at 3 o'clock P.M. to take action towards repairing Academy. Beautiful moon-light night.

Tuesday Jan. 6th. Woke this morning and was surprise to hear the roaring of thunder, the rapid fall of rain and blustering wind. - Cleared off before noon, sun shone out warm & pleasant - in afternoon became cloudy and windy.
"Sale day" in Decatur, but a small turn out in consequence of inclemency of the weather.
Went to Atlanta on freight-train, had coat cut etc.
Clear at night & cold.
Renewed sub. for "Confederacy" till 30th July.

Wednesday Jan. 7th. Cold - the ground frozen.
Spent most of the day at home. In afternoon called on Mr. Mason and Mr. Willard.

Jan. 8th Thursday. Spent day at home reading etc. Wrote to Father.

Friday Jan. 9th. Cloudy in morning - clear in afternoon. Rec'd letter from W. M. Shropshire and answered it.
Trustees at work on the academy repairing etc.
Walked to Depot in evening - one week since our arrival in Decatur.

Saturday Jan. 10th. Wet morning - cloudy in afternoon, but no rain. Spent morning at Academy arranging for school.
Went to Atlanta with Mr. Kirkpatrick - bought a look for closet at Academy - returned
on night train thoroughly squeezed by the immense crowd on board. Saw a number of Yankee prisoners in Atlanta. Had School Notice (of this date) published in "Southern Confederacy."

Sunday Jan. 11th. Quiet and pleasant day. Attended preaching at Methodist Church, Mr. Williams (Circuit rider). Walked with "Old Woman," Maggie & "Fannie Terrie" to the cemetery in afternoon. Rather a dull day.

Monday, Jan. 12th. Beautiful & pleasant day. My school opened at "Decatur Academy" with 25 pupils. Had my book & school apparatus brought from Depot, and arranged in Academy. Mr. Clarke's family moved to Decatur - called to see them.

Tuesday Jan. 13th. Weather pleasant. An addition of eight in school today. Went to Atlanta on 5 o'clock train - Saw Dr. Lee and Carrie there en route to Murfreesboro in search of Bro. S. and Lawrence Lee. Took "lunch" at Mr. Clarke's upon my arrival home.


Thursday Jan. 15th. Cloudy & windy. Storm, rain and wind in afternoon. Took dinner at Mr. Clarke's. Went to Depot (through the rain) - got my boots and shoes from McKinney at Lithonia. Looked at the "Skelton-house" near the Depot, with a view to renting. Wrote to Pres. Macon Female College for catalogue.

Friday Jan. 16th. Change of weather in the night very cold this morning. - Snow storm in the night - cloudy, with appearance of snowing. Cleared off in evening - very cold. Rec'd letter from Carrie Hunter, at Chattanooga - unsuccessfull as yet in her search for her wounded brother and husband.

Saturday 17th Jan. Very cold. Rose early with wife & baby and set out on morning train for Lithonia. - Spent a pleasant day there notwithstanding the cold weather - returned on the evening train. Wrote to Laura Moore & W. M. Shropshire to make inquiry at the different Hospitals in Rome & Ringgold about my wounded brother and Lawrence Lee.

Sunday Jan. 18th. Another cold, unpleasant day. Attended Sabbath Schhol - accepted a class as teacher. Attended Church at the usual hour - preaching by Dr. Holmes, subject "Obedience." Called at Mr. Clarke's in afternoon.


Tuesday Jan. 20th. Cold, windy and showery.


Thursday Jan. 22nd. Beautiful day and pleasant after so much cold disagreeable weather. India made engagement to board with Mr. Clarke. Wrote to W. M. Shropshire. Rec'd letter from Laura Moore, Rome, Ga.

Jan. 23rd Friday. Another beautiful day. Mentioned to Mrs. Morgan our intention to board with Mr. Clarke. Wrote to Sister Sarah.

Saturday Jan. 24th. Went to work at Mr. Kirk's shop, varnished my "Secretary" - planned some work for Mr. Marshal.
In after-noon removed to Mr. Clarke's (the old "Calhoun House") to board - set our house in order and after tea had a pleasant confab with Rev. Mr. Williams.


Tuesday Jan. 27th. Rain last night - cloudy & damp today. India entered my School today as assistant. Snow-storm in evening - continued snowing till late at night. Addition of one in School. Academy key stolen.

Wednesday Jan. 28th. Very cold - ground white with snow. Another shower of snow in the afternoon.

Thursday Jan. 29th. Very cold - clear. Received letter from Father. Went to Atlanta on Freight Train to meet "Lee, Battie & Jim Tom" - returned on evening train.

Friday Jan. 30th. Weather moderating, though still cold. Rose very early, went to Depot with Lee M. "to see her on the cars safe" en-route to Wilkse County. Mrs. Coe & Miss Lumpkin came down on train. J. T. Moore called at Academy. Jim Tom took evening train for Rome. Baby sick.

Saturday Jan. 31st. Pretty today - called at Mr. Kirk's shop - was again vaccinated - spent greater part of the day at home with "wife & baby" - both sick.

Sunday Feb. 1st. The day of rest - wet day - so Sabbath Schoor nor preaching. Mr. Clarke returned from "quarterly meeting" at Lithonia - brought with him my "jeans coat. Rec'd letter from father.

Monday Feb. 2nd. Clear & pleasant day. Addition of 3 in school. After supper walked with Mr. Clarke to the Depot - noticed slight indications of rain. . . . Heavy shower before bed-time. Wrote to Joel T. Bond, Lithonia to have shoes made for India - also to "Southern Confederacy" enclosing $7.00 for advertising school.

Tuesday Feb. 3rd. Was surprised this morning to see the ground covered with snow. Very cold disagreeable day. "Sale-day" - saw several of my old acquaintances from Lithonia. A change in the weather "for the worse" about dark.

Wednesday Feb. 4th. Cold! Cold!! Cold!!! No school in consequence of the severity of the weather. Cloudy all day - before dark began to sleet and continued ------

Thursday Feb. 5th. Last night was a awful time - sleet fell rapidly during the entire night and the house was shaken by the incessant blowing of the wind. This morning depth of the sleet is four or five inches and still rapidly falling (7 o'clock A.M.) the wind is blowing and the air piercingly cold. Such time I never before witnessed. Quit snowing & sleeting about 8 o'clock in the morning, but remained cloudy all day - no school - "went hunting."
Friday Feb. 6th. Clear day, but so cold that the snow continued on the ground. Spent day at home - no school. Made Fannie Terrie a pair shoes.

Saturday Feb. 7th. Drew my money from the Treas. of the pov. - school fund $123. - Paid Mrs. McKeel for washing.
Ground still white with snow - weather moderating slightly.

Sunday Feb. 8th - No preaching in consequence of bad weather. In after-noon called on Col. Alexander in company with Mr. Clarke. - Snow melting rapidly - the ground "sloshy" - the air pleasant to what it has been.

Monday Feb. 9th. Pretty day - the sun-shine warm and agreeable, but the ground covered with a batter of snow and mud. Saw John P. Marbut in town - walked to Depot with him. Mr. M. took supper with us at "Unkle Henry's."

Tuesday Feb. 10th. The quite warm & pleasant, though snow may be still seen in shaded places. Addition of one in school.

Wednesday Feb. 11th. Beautiful & pleasant day. Dr. Holmes called on me at Academy.

Thursday Feb. 12th. Cloudy, windy and warm. Was honored with a visit from the Board of Trustees - examined some of my classes before them.
India received her shoes from Joel Bond at Lithonia.
Shower in evening.
Rec'd letter from Col. Swift, stating that my negroes were sick etc.

Friday Feb. 13th. Busy at work preparing a set of Mechanical powers. Day passed as usual.

Saturday Feb. 14th. Cloudy. Went to Lithonia - thence to "boboshela" with Col. Swift (on horse-back) to see sick negroes. Found Anderson very sick with Tonsilitus - sent Drs. Bond & Chupp to see him upon my return to Lithonia.
Rec'd present of 2 doz. eggs from "Old Jim" as a present for "Miss India & Little Missy."
Col. S. presented me with a bag of nice potatoes for Fannie Terrie & a plug of Tobacco for myself. Returned home on evening train.
Children busy exchanging Valentines.

Sunday Feb. 15th. Cloudy, damp morning.
Attended Sab. School & preaching at Pres. Church - Rev. Mr. Conner (a Tenn. Chaplain) - excellent sermon, well delivered.
In after-noon walked out to "Camp Randolf" with Mr. Kirk - called on Col. Clarke - heard no preaching.

Monday Feb. 16th. Very wet morning. But few pupils in school. Gloomy throughout the day. Wrote to Father.

Tuesday Feb. 17th. Wet day and cold.

Wednesday Feb. 18th. Disabreable weather - cold & wet. Stormy during the whole night - very wet day. Dull time in school.
My birth-day - twenty eight years old. Alas! how rapidly time flies, and how little have I accomplished!
Mr. Clarke started to Vicksburg - gave him a letter of introduction to Gen. S. D. Lee, Com. Post. at Vicksburg.

Thursday Feb. 19th. Clear & pleasant day.

Friday Feb. 20th. Clear day. - planned some work for tomorrow.
Saturday Feb. 21st. Showery during the day - spent day (mostly) at Mr. K's shop making him a fancy shoe-box.

Sunday Feb. 22nd. Cloudy day - Attended Sabbath School, and preaching (Dr. McKee) at Presbyterian Church.

Monday Feb. 23rd. Clear cold in morning - pleasant in sunshine. A general gathering of "conscripts" for examination & enrollment. Called at the "shop" after school and finished my work.


Thursday Feb. 26th. Drizzly, damp morning. Received a letter from "Isom" near Shelby-ville Tenn. The bell was removed from the "Old Academy" to be placed over the "Female Academy," and the preparations to have it mounted are begun. Miss Julia & Mrs. Ragan returned from down the country. Very heavy rain after dark with thunder & lightning.

Friday Feb. 27th. Cloudy day.

Saturday Feb. 28th. Very wet day - Spent day in shop at work on my "cabinet."

Sunday March 1st. No preaching - attended Sabbath School, spent evening at home.


Wednesday March 4th. Day passed as usual. Very cold in evening. Dr. Clemens preached in Academy.

Thursday March 5th. Weather moderating.

Friday March 6th. Cloudy - rain in evening. Declamation in School. Mr. Clarke returned from Vicksburg on night train.

Saturday March 7th. Spent most of the day at work in the shop. Wet morning - clear in afternoon.

Sunday March 8th. Pretty & pleasant day. Attended Sab. School & Methodist Church - preaching by Dr. Clemens. Young Men's Prayer Meeting at 4 o'clock.

Monday March 9th. Pretty day. Rec'd a present from Mr. Kirk - the frame & apparatus batting machine. Commenced Declamation & Composition in school as a daily exercise. Thunder storm last night.

Tuesday March 10th. Cloudy & warm in morning. Began to rain at noon - "in torrents" - small attendance at school in afternoon. Rained all evening and until late at night.
Wednesday 11th, 1863.


Friday March 13th. Rec'd letter from Col. Jno. N. S. Pretty day. Varnished my "cabinet."

Went to Lithonia on night train with India & Pan Terry, Miss Julia, Jennie C. - Battie & Mrs. Coe. Spent night With Col. S - had pleasant time.

Saturday March 14th. Went with India & baby to "Boboshala" to see the negroes - returned to dinner. Came home on evening train. Beautiful day. Heard doves cooing for first time.

Sunday March 15th. Quite warm for the season - signs of rain. Preaching by Dr. Clement at Pres. Church.

Monday March 16th. Warm & pleasant day. Removed my "cabinet" home from shop. Introduced the "rod" in school - remodeled my rules & regulations etc. Went to Depot in evening to meet Mrs. Coe - saw J. T. Moore on train. The remains of Capt. Jos. H. Cunningham passed down on train in charge of his brother.

Tuesday March 17th. Pretty day. Had "legs" turned for a little trundle bed. Busy classifying my cabinet curiosities. Mr. Clarke very sick, and has been so for more than a week.

Wednesday March 18th. Weather continues clear, warm & beautiful.

Thursday March 19th. Smokey - cloudy with appearance of rain - air cooler than it has been for several days past.

Friday March 20th. Cold disagreeable day. Very unpleasant in evening.

Saturday March 21st. The ground (on top) frozen - very cold & unpleasant. Spent day at home - arranging my cabinet. Walked to Depot in evening.

Sunday March 22nd. Weather moderating. - Rec'd letter from Cephie DeLaunay.

Monday March 23rd. Warm & cloudy. Wrote to Col. Jno. N. Swift. Began to rain in evening and continued until late at night.

Tuesday March 24th. Hazy in morning, though warm & pleasant. Opened school at 8 o'clock. Thunder storm in evening (after school) and very heavy rain.

Wednesday March 25th. Cold, windy day.

Thursday March 26th. Morning cool.

Friday March 27th. The day appointed by the President as "a day of fasting, humiliation & prayer" - Attended public worship at Pres. Church - Dr. McKee & Rev. Mr. Garr in attendance. In afternoon spent several hours at Depot in conversation with Mssrs. Brice, Davis, Wilson, George & Dr. Holmes. Borrowed of Mrs. Ragan $500.00 (and gave my note) to pay sundry debts etc.

Saturday March 28th. Wet morning. Spent fore-mnoon in shop at work. Rain ceased about noon. Went to Atlanta on freight train with India to do some "shopping."
Sunday March 29th. Cloudy, cool, disagreeable day. Dr. Holmes preached at Pres. Church - "Render to Caesar etc." --- Fan Terrie sick.

Monday March 30th. Cold, rainy, blustery day, exceedingly disagreeable. No school in afternoon. 
Mrs. Ragan & Miss Julia left for "up the country" - went to the Depot to see them off. Borrowed of Mrs. R. $200.00 & gave my note. 
Rec'd. letter from W. M. Shropshire.


April 1st. Wednesday. Rose at the usual hour and at the call of the breakfast-bell went down to be made an "April fool" of. Had meeting of school-firls to make preliminary arrangements for the celebration of "May-day." Varnished Fan Terrie's bed-stead.

April 2nd. Thursday. Contributed $10.00 to the young-ladies for "May Party" --- Wrote to W. M. Shropshire.

April 3rd. Friday. Blustery. Had a call from Dr. Holmes & Rev. Mr. Williams at Academy.

April 4th. Pretty day. Went to Lithonia - took Fannie Terrie with me. Left $350 with Mr. Swift to pay Messrs. McCarter & Phillips. Bought cloth for matrass & cotton for ditto @ 35 cts.

Sunday April 5th. No preaching.

Monday, April 6th. Addition of nine in school.

Tuesday April 7th. Fixed my little bed-stead with hinges to let one side down.

Wednesday April 8th. Cool morning - clear day -. Have severe head-ache, and other ailments.

Thursday April 9th. Beautiful weather.

Friday April 10th. Went to Depot to meet Miss Jennie Swift & Mrs. Coe.


Sunday April 12th. Attended Sabbath School & preaching at Methodist - Rev. Mr. Bradford. In afternoon called on Mr. Kirk, sat a short time & then took long "evening's walk." Feel symptoms of returning sore-throat. --- "April shower" in afternoon.

April 13th Monday. Throat very sore. Had to dismiss school at noon in consequence. India went to Atlanta. Mrs. Shropshire came by down train to spend the night with Battiie. Rec'd letter from Mr. Wooten (at) Stone Mountain. Wrote to Dr. Hamilton with a view to buying his house & lot in Decatur.

April 14th Tuesday. No school - throat swollen & painful. --- Showery day. Staid closely in my room all day - made a few Boxes for my "Cabinet."

April 16th - Thursday. Rec'd letter from Dr. Hamilton - answered it. Called at "shop" to see the progress of the "match manufactory."

Friday April 17th. Wrote to Col. Jno. N. Swift.

Saturday April 18th. Went to Lithonia, returned on freight train and went to Atlanta. Rec'd letter from Dr. Hamilton.


Monday April 20th. Addition of two in school. In evening Mr. Wooten from Stone Mountain called at Academy to enter his daughter. Wrote to Dr. Hamilton - Col. Swift & W. M. Shropshire.

Tuesday April 21st. Have bad cold. Mr. "Kirk" called & sat till bed-time. Rec'd letter from Col. Swift.

Wednesday April 22nd. Troubled with severe cough.

Thursday April 23rd. Wrote to Dr. Hamilton & Mr. Mashburn, Atlanta, in reference to purchasing a house and lot in Decatur.

Friday April 24th. Sick from the effects of "Mr. Kirk's pills". Wrote Col. Jno. N. Swift. -- Took up school at 1 o'clock and dismissed early in order to go to Atlanta. Saw Dr. Hamilton & made conditional trade for his house & lot in Decatur.

Saturday April 25th. Spent fore-noon at Academy assisting to raise the belfy. Had a call from Dr. Holmes, Dr. McKee, Col. Brown & others. Spent evening at home. Rec'd letter from Sister S.

Sunday April 26th. Pretty day. The trees are in full bloom - and the fresh green leaves are nearly grown. Mr. Lawshe preached at Methodist Church, - did not attend in consequence of troublesome cough. Wrote to brother S. - Shelbyville, Tenn.

Monday April 27th. Wet morning - thunder shower in night. Damp, cloudy with an occasional shower during the day. Sent $3.00 to Rev. A. A. Porter to have S. Presbyterian sent to S. Hunter.

Tuesday April 28th. Dark, gloomy morning.

Wednesday April 29th. Pretty day - had bell mounted at Academy. Meeting of Board of Trustees in afternoon - dismissed school until Monday morning. Rec'd letter from Bro. Sam.

Thursday April 30th. Had meeting of the School to make preparations for the approaching celebration - spent the day at Academy at work. Mrs. Moore of Rome came by up-train.

Friday - "May day." Spent morning at work. Our celebration passed off at the appointed hour (6 o'clock) with credit to the young ladies. Large crowd present - supper neatly and abundantly served up - and was dispatched with "gusto," by the children. A pleasant - delightful day!

Saturday May 2nd - Spent day at home - resting from the effects of last night's dissipation. Miss Jennie Swift and Thomas (?) returned home.


Tuesday May 5th. Report says Rome has been taken by the Yankees. Great excitement tho' the "report needs confirmation." Good news in evening -- news of the capture of the Federals by Forrest above Rome. Performed some chemical experiments before the class - oxygen - burning wire - phosphorus etc. Mrs. Moore left for Rome.


Thursday May 7th. Cloudy & disagreeably cool. Dr. Wilson of Atlanta preached the funeral of Mrs. Strange at 10 o'clock in Pres. Church - dismissed school until two. Purchased of Dr. Wilson his School Apparatus for $100 - paid $50 and gave my note for the balance. Walked to Col. Alexander's after my air-pump etc. Attended a concert in the C. House given by the "Dixie Family."

Friday May 8th. Cool day & unpleasant.

Saturday May 9th. Spent day at work cleaning up my apparatus.

Sunday May 10th. Preaching at Methodist Church - Mr. Williams. Took nap in evening. - "Stone-Wall" Jackson died.

Monday May 11th. Mrs. Coe left for "down the country." Mrs. Clarke gave us to understand we were no longer welcome as boarders - made efforts to get another home - wrote to Dr. Hamilton of Atlanta, with a view to buying his house & lot. Jennie C. quit music lessons.

Tuesday May 12th. Called on Mrs. Chuming to get board for Battie. In evening sent Battie's trunk to Mrs. C's. Went with India & Fannie Terrie to Mrs. Chivers to get strawberries - a rich treat! - Made another effort to get a house in which to live.

Wednesday May 13th. Fannie quite sick last night with "roseola." Pitted up my electric machine.

Thursday May 14th. Good shower in afternoon. Received letter from brother S. containing a shell ring for India.

Friday May 15th. Finished cleaning my electric machine and put it together - varnished it etc. Brought Fan Terrie's table home.

Saturday May 16th. Went to Lithonia - returned on freight train. Bought lot of books of Col. Swift. In evening went to Academy with Mrs. McCarver & other ladies to show my apparatus etc.


Monday May 18th. The "fall of Jackson" confirmed. Dr. Quinn & Mrs. McCarver left for "up the country." Had an insulated stool made.
Tuesday May 19th. Cool for the season. Performed some experiments in electricity.

Wednesday May 20th. Called at Mrs. Stone's to collect account for Maj. Hardee. Wrote to W. M. Shropshire inclosing Mr. Clarke's account for Battle.

Thursday May 21st. News from the west unfavorable.

Friday 22nd May. Rented a portion of Mr. Clarke's house. Battie Shropshire received letter from her father requesting her to come home. Fannie Terrie sick. Mrs. Clarke was taken sick.

Saturday May 23rd. Rose early to go with Battie to Atlanta en route home. Battie left for home - went with her to Atlanta. Went to Lithonia to make arrangements to move my plunder etc. to Decatur. Returned on evening train. Rec'd letter from W. M. Shropshire containing one hundred dollars. Paid Battie's board $74.00. Bought picture of Col. Swift (Pharaoh's Horses).

Sunday May 24th. Mr. Wood preached at Pres. Church.


Tuesday May 26th. Wrote to Laura Moore. Fitted up by "forceing-pump."

Wednesday May 27th. Windy & cool. Moved "down stairs."


Friday May 29th. Gloomy, wet morning. Taught till 11 o'clock - dismissed for the remainder of the day. In evening went to Atlanta to exchange some school-books. Rec'd letter from Col. Swift.

Saturday May 30th. Showery all day. Moved Louisa up and commenced house-keeping. Bought some supplies, flour, meal, syrup etc. etc.

Sunday May 31st. Beautiful day. In the morning attended the funeral services of Miss Mashburn. Went to Pres. Church at usual hour & heard a superior sermon by Mr. Wood. Text "Who so will confess me before men, him will I confess etc."

Monday June 1st. Put tin foil in my "induction apparatus." Mrs. Clarke very sick.

Tuesday June 2nd. Sale-day. Citizens had meeting to organize military companies for home defence. Thunder storm in afternoon. Had new steps put to dwelling.

Wednesday June 3rd. Stormy last night and cloudy during the day. Several thunder storms in forenoon. India received a letter from Lea Moore ("School Marm") - I received one from Laura M. declining the idea of becoming my assistant in my school. Fight in school - Hugh Angier & D. McCulloch - had an investigation of the affair.

Thursday June 4th. Beautiful day. The Trustees had meeting to investigate the "fighting" affair of yesterday.

Saturday June 6th. The citizens of DeKalb had a meeting to form military companies to assist in repelling "Yankee" raids & a temporary organization was formed. Received a letter from Father.

Sunday June 7th. Rev. Mr. Rogers preached at Pres. Church in morning & evening.

Monday June 8th. Appearance of rain. Hetty had diptheria. Called on Mr. Kirk after supper.


Wednesday June 10th. Wet day. Commencement of the 2nd Term. School opened with 40 pupils notwithstanding the unfavorable weather. Whipped "R.M.B." which produced hard feelings on the part of his parents towards me.

Thursday June 11th. Very wet morning - no school in forenoon in consequence. A number of heavy thunder showers during the day in close succession with sunshine between. Wrote to Father.

Friday June 12th. Day passed as usual - performed sundry experiments in chemistry.

Saturday June 13th. Went to Lithonia on morning train, thence to "Boboshela" with Col. Swift - ealked over the plantation etc. Returned on evening train. Met with very old friend and fellow student - Rev. J. H. Caillard -- To-day my thoughts revert to the past - to the ever-to-be-remembered 13th June 1859 - just four years ago, 'Twas then the companion of my youth was called from scenes of suffering & sorrow to the bright realms of glory. How sad & lonely then. 'Tis a wise provision in nature to remove the pangs of grief - to soothe the aching heart. Her last words, how vividly do I remember them!

"Jesus lover of my soul
Let me to thy bosom fly" etc.

Sunday June 14th. Mr. Williams preached at Methodist Church, Mrs. Clarke still very low - having been so just two weeks.

Monday June 15th. Pretty day. India Rec'd letter from Jane Cunningham. Mrs. Ragan came on down evening train.

Tuesday June 16th. Sent my "jug" to W. L. Born Esq., Lithonia, for vinegar & received same by up-freight train.

Wednesday June 17th. Rec'd letter from father.

Thursday June 18th. Showery during the day. Mrs. Swift came up on the morning train, to spend the day with Mrs. Clarke. Borrowed bottle whisky of Dr. Avary, but found it too weak for my spirit lamp. Sat up till 12 o'clock (at night) with Lieut. Brown.

Friday June 19th. Cloudy in morning - clear in afternoon. Slept late in consequence of sitting up last night.

Saturday June 20th. Pretty day. Spent forenoon in shop making "Test-tube rack." A meeting in C. H. to organize volunteer companies, to assist in preventing "Yankee Raids." Was elected 1st Lieut. of Infantry Company. Went to Atlanta on freight train with "Ole 'Oman."

Sunday June 21st. The congregation assembled, but Mr. Rogers (the preacher) failed to come. Rec'd letter from Father. Shower in evening.
Monday June 22nd. Quite cool for the season. Organized another class in arithmetic - sent to Atlanta for books.


Wednesday June 24th. Had a case of shelves made for my room at Academy. Rec'd my shoes from Lithonia after waiting five weeks for them.

Thursday June 25th. Heavy rain last night - cloudy, damp day.

Friday June 26th. Cloudy, damp morning - sent my bucket to Lithonia for butter.

Saturday June 27th. Spent fore-noon at home -- went to Atlanta in (evening) freight train. Bought some Alcohol, ($40 per Gallon).

Sunday June 28th. Showery in morning - no sabbath school. Heard Mr. Garr preach in Court-House. Took nap in afternoon.

Monday June 29th. Thunder storm with hail in evening. Dr. Avary called on me at Academy.

Tuesday June 30th. Several showers during the day. Fannie Terrie quite sick.

July 1st Wednesday. Beautiful & pleasant day. The crops are growing rapidly in consequence of so much rain and every thing wears a cheerful aspect. Col. Swift in town.

Thursday July 2nd. Rec'd letter from Col. Swift relative to buying meat. Down train killed a negro between here and Atlanta this evening. Mrs. Coe returned.

Friday July 3rd. Finished painting my "Barker's Mills." Mr. and Mrs. Shropshire came with Lilly & Freeman. Wrote to Mr. Swift to buy some meat for me.

Saturday July 4th. The "glorious fourth" came and passed away without any demonstrations or glorifications. A large (drunken) party passed on train en route for Stone Mountain. Spent day mostly at home with my friends - called at Academy - spent an hour with Mr. Barr. Rec'd a call from Lieut. Wingfield.

Sunday July 5th. Mr. Garr preached at Pres. Church. Heavy rain at night (after dark). Had a discussion with parson Williams on Church Government etc.

Monday July 6th. Rose very early to see Mr. Shropshire & family off on the train. Showery during fore-noon.

Tuesday July 7th. Sale-day. The day appointed to raise 140 troops from DeKalb for Confederate service. A large amount of property sold - negroes sold very high. In afternoon a meeting was held in the C. House and two Companies (Cavalry & Infantry) were formed making in the aggregate upwards of 80 men. Heavy rain after dark. Good news from Virginia. Capture of Hooker's Army (40,000) by Gen. Lee. India went to Atlanta.

Wednesday July 8th. Several showers during the day. Wrote to F. Lee Moore, Delhi, Ga.

Thursday July 9th. Slept late. News came of the fall of Vicksburg.

Friday July 10th. Weather warm.

Saturday July 11th. Went to Lithonia with India & Fannie Terrie - spent day there -
sat an hour with "Thom Whaley" taking lessons. - Returned on evening train. Fighting at Charleston.

Sunday July 12th. Attended Sabbath School - spent remainder of day at home.

Monday July 13th. Performed some experiments in photography.

Tuesday July 14th. Evening smoky - sun very red. Bought some flour of Mr. Mason. India rec'd letter from F. Lee Moore.


Thursday July 16th. Pleasant day. Performed sundry experiments with air-pump. F. Lee Moore came on up-train.

Friday July 17th. Last day of school (previous to vacation). Taught during forenoon. Rec'd letter from Brother Sam, by Isom, informing me of his arrival at the Atlanta Hospital. Went to Atlanta. Called to see him - made an effort to get him off, but failed in the attempt. Returned to Decatur by evening train. Mrs. Brown died.

Saturday July 18th. Rose very early - in great haste - and took train for Atlanta - Lee Moore with me on route home. Went to Fair Ground Hospital to see brother S. - made other efforts to get "leave of absence" for him but without success. Spent day in Atlanta, returned on evening train. Bought sugar at $1.50 per pound. Mrs. Brown's infant died. Rec'd letter from Sister Sarah.

Sunday July 19th. Mr. Rogers preached at Pres. Church. In afternoon went to Atlanta in buggy with Warren Davis & Fannie Terrie to see brother Sam.

Monday July 20th. Spent few hours in Academy at work. In afternoon went to Atlanta. Brother S. improving.

Tuesday July 21st. Went to Lithonia - spent day there - called at Academy to see Miss Jennie Swift.

Wednesday July 22nd. Went to Atlanta on evening train; - brother S. returned home with me having a furlough of 50 days. A negro shot by Guard in Decatur - died.

Thursday July 23rd. Sam & I went to Academy in forenoon - spent an hour or two - went to Atlanta on evening freight. Rev. F. D. Burkhead & Carrie arrived (in hack) from Atlanta a little after dark - having gone up on evening train. Sent Isom home to Carolina on morning train. Bought water-melon @ $2.25.

Friday July 24th. Spent day at home - rose early & went with Mr. Burkhead to Depot to take train for Chattanooga. In evening spent several hours at Academy, experimenting.

Saturday July 25th. Joined Cavalry Company - spent several hours in drilling both on foot & on horse - was thoroughly drenched by a heavy shower while on drill. Went to Atlanta on evening freight with Sam, Carrie & India. The 42nd GA. Reg. returned from Vicksburg - crowded times in Atlanta. Mr. Burkhead returned from Chattanooga.


Monday July 27th. Spent fore-noon at home. Went to Atlanta in evening with Carrie -
bought osnaburgs @ $1.75 per yard. Called on Mr. Kirk after supper - bought of him 15 wheat sacks.


Wednesday July 29th. Light shower last evening - the air pleasant & refreshing this morning. Commenced my "Tool Chest" in afternoon. Dr. Jones here. Dr. & Mrs. Avary called in evening.

Thursday July 30th. Spent day in work shop at my tool-chest. Light shower about noon - very heavy rain in evening with dull rolling thunder. --- Mr. Shropshire came on down train to get a "substitute" in the army.

Friday July 31st. Spent a portion of forenoon at home with Mr. Shropshire - finished my tool-chest.

Saturday August 1st. Went to Atlanta in afternoon to take package money belonging to W. M. S. Bought 23 yds. osnaburgs @ $1.50 per yard - peaches @ 50 & 75 cts. per dozen. Rain in evening.

Sunday August 2nd. Attended Sabbath School - preaching by Mr. Rogers. Rec'd letter from W. M. Shropshire.

Monday Aug. 3rd. Spent portion of day reading - am troubled with sore eyes - Wrote to W. M. S. - collected some money.

Tuesday Aug. 4th. Rode out to Col. Alston's with Mr. Calrke - beautiful morning - Sale day. The day appointed to raise troops for local defense - Joined Cavalry Company (Capt. Candler) & was mustered into service subject to the call of the President, in case of emergency. The quota (140) not being made up, and draft was ordered and the deficit filled. The Companies - one Cavalry & two Infantry - drilled short time.

Wednesday Aug. 5th. Went to Lithonia on morning train, thence to the plantation with Mr. Swift. Laid in a supply of water-melons, vegetables etc. - returned on evening train. Rain just before night.

Thursday Aug. 6th. Made some experiments in soldering. Griffin came up on freight train with vegetables to.

Friday Aug. 7th. Spent day at workshop making a machine for circular motion etc.

Saturday Aug. 8th. Fannie Terrie's birthday - two years old. Mrs. Clarke died at 7½ o'clock A.M. after an illness of eleven weeks. Went to Atlanta to purchase a coffin for Mrs. C. Spent evening at home & at grave-yard, superintending the digging of grave etc. Wrote to W. M. Shropshire Esq. & Col. Swift.

Sunday Aug. 9th. Went to Depot to meet Mr. Hinton. Mrs. Clarke buried at 12 o'clock - funeral services conducted by Rev. Mr. Hinton. Light showers during the burial.

Monday Aug. 10th. Rose early. Called on Mr. Kirk before breakfast - bought 5 wheat sacks of him. Went to Lithonia on morning train on "foraging" excursion - bought a bushel of onions of "Uncle Andy" & engaged some chickens - returned on evening train.

Tuesday Aug. 11th. Spent day at work on my "machine."
Wednesday Aug. 12th. Col. Swift came up on freight train - took supper with us. Went with Mr. S. to Ben Burdett's to get horse for his son etc. Isom returned from Carolina bringing letter from Carrie to India.

Thursday Aug. 13th. The day appointed to have streets worked - put Isom in my place. Wrote to Father & to "Uncle Andy" about my chickens. A general impression of horses in Atlanta for army purposes. India received letter from F. Lee Moore requesting me to meet her in Atlanta tomorrow evening.

Friday Aug. 14th. Spent an hour at Academy. Called on Mrs. Hughes to see her about sending her children to school. Took nap in afternoon (upstairs). Went to Atlanta on freight train to meet F. Lee Moore but she failed to come.

Saturday Aug. 15th. Day for drill. Bought a horse (conditionaly) of Mr. Kirk @ $600, and had it mustered into service. Spent some time in the field drilling. Went to Atlanta on freight train to meet Misses Lee Moore, Fannie & Battie Shropshire & Ed. Shropshire - returned with them to Decatur, but could not get their baggage off. Bought meat @ $2.00 per pound.


Monday Aug. 17th. Resumed my school - 43 pupils present, 35 absent. Don't enjoy confinement in school after such a long holiday. Sent Isom to Lithonia for chickens, eggs etc.

Tuesday Aug. 18th. Weather windy and cool. Received a handsome present - a rocking settee - from Mr. Kirkpatrick.

Wednesday Aug. 19th. Painted my settee. Attended prayer-meeting in evening at Church.


Saturday Aug. 22nd. Beautiful pleasant day. BABY born at 10 o'clock A.M. "Drill-day" - did not go out with Company in consequence of the remarkable event at home. Several light showers during the day. Griffin came up on evening train - brought Charles with him to remain in Decatur.

Sunday Aug. 23rd. Endeavored to fill Mr. Willard's place at Sabbath School. Preaching in Court House - did not attend. India & Baby getting on flourishingly. Mr. Clarke, Mr. Kirk & myself made effort to have union prayer meeting in Court House every Wednesday night.

Monday Aug. 24th. Had my "exemption papers" reappproved. Went to Depot. Mentioned the proposed prayer meeting to Dr. Holmes, Col. Brown & others.

Tuesday Aug. 25th. Very hot & sultry in afternoon.
Wednesday Aug. 26th. Morning cool - weather hazy - autumnal appearance. The girls went to Atlanta on freight train.
Special (Union) prayer meeting held in C. House at night in behalf of our Country. Introduced Intellectual Philosophy in School.

Thursday Aug. 27th. Morning unpleasantly cool.

Friday Aug. 28th. Nothing worth notice transpired.

Saturday Aug. 29th. Spent three hours in drilling - in afternoon had head-ache in consequence. Bought Candle Stand of Mr. Kirk - revarnished it. Rec'd letter from Father.

Sunday Aug. 30th. Attended Sabbath School - preaching by Dr. Kendrick of Madison (Baptist) at Pres. Church.


Wednesday Sept. 2nd. No school. Preparations were hastily made to leave at ten o'clock for Atlanta. The hour arrived - the men mounted - and in a few minutes we were on the march in response to an invitation of Col. Wright. Reached Atlanta in due time - halted at "Walton Spring" & remained until the Capt. reported. Upon receiving a letter of congratulation, the Companies were dismissed with orders to hold themselves in readiness at a moment's warning. Reached home before night. Called on Mr. Kirk who sent India a flask of Brandy. Attended Union prayer meeting in Court House at night - Mr. Clarke officiating.

Thursday Sept. 3rd. Resumed school - about half the pupils in attendance.

Friday Sept. 4th. Had Declamation in school. Illustrated the process of distilling to my class in Chemistry & Philosophy. Made specimen of brandy (peach).

Saturday Sept. 5th. An address in C. House by Hon. Mr. Lester (candidate for Congress). Drilled a short time in afternoon. Went to Atlanta on freight train (with Mr. Kirk, F. Lee Moore & Fannie S.) to get cavalry equipments -- without success. Brother Theodore came down on morning train.

Sunday Sept. 6th. Excitement in Decatur caused by an order from the Ad'gt Gen. calling into Camp the "home guard." -- Couriers dispatched to warn the members of the Company. Brother Theo. preached in Pres. Church in forenoon and at night.

Monday Sept. 7th. Put "my folks" to work equipping me for service - had shirt made etc. Order countermanded, changing time to tuesday week, and then to next Friday. Theo. left on evening train.

Tuesday Sept. 8th. News to the effect that "Morris Island" has been evacuated by Confederate troops. News from Northern Georgia unfavorable - the enemy on Georgia soil. Making preparations to leave on Friday next with Company. Bought saddle @ $27.00.
Brother Sam came on up train en route to join his Command in Northern Georgia. Bombardment still going on at Charleston.

Thursday Sept. 10th. Rose early & wrote letter to father. Taught until noon, and dismissed in consequence of being called out with "home guard" -- dismissed until I return, until the crisis is past. Made preparations to leave on tomorrow for Camp. Made arrangements to have my school continue under the supervision of Misses Moore and Willard.

Friday Sept. 11th. The day of our departure is at hand. All being ready, at ten o'clock the DeKalb Cavalry took up line of march for Atlanta, and ere the day had passed were ensconced at "Camp Medlock" -- without tents, with our heads pillowed upon the earth, and the canopy of the heavens above us.

Saturday Sept. 12th. Our first day in camp - though in the midst of confusion, the men are lively and full of sport. Had tents furnished in afternoon which were speedily put in order. "All quiet tonight." How different is camp-life from that in our own pleasant homes.


Monday Sept. 14th. Commenced drilling - twice each day. Several new companies arrived. Went to the city.

Tuesday Sept. 15th. Received visits from several friends.

Wednesday Sept. 16th. After drill "ran the blockade" and spent several hours with the loved ones at home, - returned to camp in time for evening drill. Several political speeches at night in camp.

Thursday Sept. 17th. Nothing of importance occurred to break the monotony of camp life.

Friday Sept. 18th.

Saturday Sept. 19th. In evening went home (and remained until Sunday evening.)

Sunday Sept. 20th. returned to camp in afternoon & was detailed to assist in seizing horses for the government. Took train in Atlanta and was soon en route we know not where.

Monday Sept. 21st. Morning found me encamped 3/4 mile east of Lagrange. Day spent in seizing horses - upwards of sixty taken. Performed my first feat at "seizing" - was very successful.

Tuesday Sept. 22nd. Spent day at Lagrange - weary some time. Received favors from Misses Bloomfield in the shape of nice breakfast, coffee etc etc.

Wednesday Sept. 23rd. Received transportation home - left Lagrange at 1 o'clock & reached Camp about dark.

Thursday Sept. 24th. Sent Griffin to Decatur after my horse - received letter from India.

Friday Sept. 25th. Received orders to leave for Rome next week - had mock court in camp at night.
Saturday Sept. 26th. Wrote to Col. Swift. Went home in evening to make some preparations for leaving.


Monday Sept. 28th. Was sent to Atlanta with some men to have horses shod. Spent evening at Camp - drew canteens, haversacks etc.

Tuesday Sept. 29th. Rose very early - before daylight - and made preparations to set out for Rome. Took up the line of march about sun-rise - passed Marietta late in evening - spent night at the house of Mr. Thos. Kirkpatrick.

Wednesday Sept. 30th. Joined our command, and made a long and dusty march. Encamped for the night at Goldsmith's - north of "Allatoona hills." Commenced raining about dark. Spent a long disagreeable night - poorly sheltered from the weather.

Thursday Oct. 1st. Wet day. Took our line of march through rain and mud until we arrived at Silver Creek Church - encamped for the night. Rain fell incessantly and at times in torrents until midnight. Slept pretty well notwithstanding the rain.

Friday Oct. 2nd. At camp 7 miles from Rome. Feel refreshed. Regiment took up line of march and arrived at camp 3 miles from Rome on "Cave Spring road." Called on my friends and relatives in town.

Saturday Oct. 3rd. Spent day in camp - wrote to India. Reg. drew arms.


Tuesday Oct. 6th. Walked into woods some distance from camp & in quietude - wrote to "Old 'Oman". Returned to camp and found letter from India enclosing one from Col. Swift. Was appointed "Sergeant of beef cattle guard" and ordered to report in town to Capt. Bacon. Went to town for instructions in my new department.

Wednesday Oct. 7th. Rainy day - rose very early, and with detail took nine beeves to the slaughter pen. Took breakfast with my relatives in Rome. Returned to camp and in afternoon visited Rome again for father instructions. A permanent "detail" was made and placed under my command to take charge of the brigade beef cattle. Election day for Gov., Congressman, Sen. & Representative. A negro dance in camp at night. Wrote to India.

Thursday Oct. 8th. Morning clear & cool - frost in abundance. Went into town with my "cattle" - had good warm breakfast.

Friday Oct. 9th. Visited the city as usual - dull times in camp.

Saturday Oct. 10th. Mr. Kirkpatrick received furlough and left on evening train. Called on Mrs. M. & others in company with Mr. K. Saw Lieut. Shields, Orderly Cooper & other acquaintances.

Monday Oct. 12th. A detail of 100 men from the Reg. sent to Bartow & Gordon counties to arrest deserters. Took the usual complement of cattle to the slaughter pen. Took breakfast with my friends.

Tuesday Oct. 13th. Wet day. Went with my command ("beef guard") to the general pasture 8 miles above Rome after a lot of cattle. Spent day in rain - returned to camp late in evening wet and muddy. Wet night.

Wednesday Oct. 14th. Showery during the day - received a thorough drenching "en route" to town. Spent evening in camp. Wrote to Mr. Kirkpatrick.

Thursday Oct. 15th. Wet morning - numerous thunder showers during the night. Wet "sloshy" times in camp. Detail from Bartow returned.

Friday Oct. 16th. No rain today, though cloudy & damp in morning. (Some sunshine). Wrote to India. Went to town in afternoon for instructions etc. Thos. Kirkpatrick came instead of his father, and reported at camp - brought letter from India. Ordered that no more furloughs be granted.


Tuesday Oct. 20th. Another pretty day. Wrote to India (2 o'clock P.M. - am now seated at Rome Depot awaiting arrival of train.)

Wednesday Oct. 21st. Appearance of rain. Took lot bees to "slaughter pen" - called on my relatives and took breakfast. Lieut. Gates & wife returned from Macon. Called on Mr. Gartrell at office of Rome Southerner - received of him a copy of this morning's Confederate. (Wednesday evening 5 o'clock) at Rome seated under shed in front of post office - thunder roaring & rain falling rapidly. Sound of cannon heard today - thought be at Chattanooga. Detail from Reg. to take wagons to Chattanooga.

Thursday Oct. 22nd. Sent out with "Beef Detail" to impress Col. Shorter's cattle.

Friday Oct. 23rd. Very wet day. Spent day in camp - muddy & disagreeable.

Saturday Oct. 24th. Spent day in town - disagreeable weather. My men out in search of beef - the Commissary (Lampkin) mounted on my horse. Returned home after dark - rec'd letter from India.

Sunday Oct. 25th. No sabbath here! What desecration of God's holy day! Sent out with detail of men in search of beef - went to Bass Ferry & other places - no success. Spent day on horse-back - alas! no sabbath here - no "rest for the weary."
Oct. 26th - Monday. Again in search of beef with E. P. Winston impressing agent. Procured seventeen bees at Bass' Ferry (- a name associated with everything unpleasant and disagreeable.)

Tuesday Oct. 27th. Spent day in search of beef on the Etowah - no success. Returned to camp about sun down. Rec'd letter from India, enclosing one from brother S.


Thursday Oct. 29th. Clear, cool & windy. Attended morning drill, after which went to town - thence to Mr. Watter's - found no one at home & returned to Rome in time for dinner. Various rumors afloat - that a "raid" is about to be made on this place - that fighting is now going on at Chattanooga etc. etc.

The beef business having "played out" - reported to camp for duty until further orders from Capt. Bacon. Windy at night. Rec'd sad news of death of Sister's little son Aleck.


Saturday Oct. 31st. Cloudy & gloomy in morning - cleared off before noon - wrote to India - went to town after dinner to have letter mailed. Lieut. Belisle's horse died. Capt. Candler left (on furlough) for home.

Sunday Nov. 1st. Camp more quiet than usual. Discharged the duties of "Ord. Sergeant." Took long walk on hill that overlooks Coosa River - spent an hour in pleasant and I trust not unprofitable thought. How delightful to retire from the noise & turmoil of camp and meditate in quietude - with nothing to molest and nought to distract the thoughts. How vividly the "past" springs up in memory and as the tolling of the distant church bell falls upon my ears, the present is almost forgotten - one can almost for the moment lose sight of the unholy war with which our land is made to mourn - "How long, Oh Lord, how long?"

Monday Nov. 2nd. No drill today - appearance of rain.


Wednesday Nov. 4th. Another beautiful day - weather very warm for the season. Took dinner in town.

Thursday Nov. 5th. Signs of rain. General cleaning up in camp. Had the pleasure of seeing Gen. Forrest and his brave men, encamped near Camp Mobley. Commenced raining in afternoon - very wet evening.

Friday Nov. 6th. Clear & warm. Spent day in camp - finished some little trinkets for Fannie Terrie. Rec'd letter from India - and replied to immediately.

Saturday Nov. 7th. Windy day and cool - spent day in camp. An order came to have one-third of the Reg. detailed to return home and sow wheat. Assisted Lieut. Masters & Orderly Norris to make the detail.

Sunday Nov. 8th. Cool, disagreeable day - preaching by Lieut. Masters.

Monday Nov. 9th. Heavy frost. Infantry drill in morning.

Tuesday Nov. 10th. Plenty of ice - cold day. Went to town to slaughter-pen with Mr. Paden after horns, hoofs etc.
Wednesday Nov. 11th. Capt. Candler returned to camp. Rec'd letter from Mr. Kirk.


Friday Nov. 13th. Joined in "gallant charge on Silver Creek" - had amusing time. My furlough came from "headquarters all right" - furlough for eight days. Made preparations to leave for home. Took train at five o'clock P.M. - remained at Kingston until eleven, reached Atlanta at 4 o'clock - at 5 was at home with my wife and babies.

Saturday Nov. 14th. At home once more - made sundry "calls" and spent day pleasantly.

Sunday Nov. 15th. Attended Pres. Church - preaching by Mr. Rogers. Wrote few lines to Father, relative to the sickness of brother Sam.

Monday Nov. 16th. Rose early and took train for Newman to see brother S. - spent short time with him and returned by evening train.

Tuesday Nov. 17th. At home. Called on several friends. Had the pleasure of meeting with several members of "Co. A" - P. G. McWilliams, P. D. Williams & others.

Wednesday Nov. 18th. Beautiful day. Took morning train for Lithonia. Mr. Swift not being at home, went to plantation with "John N." - returned to Decatur by evening freight-train. Had short interview with Col. Swift at Depot.

Thursday Nov. 19th. Made out my school accounts - spent day at home.

Friday Nov. 20th. Made preparations to leave on tomorrow. Packed box - had baggage taken to Depot - signs of rain. Took dinner with Mrs. Coe.

Saturday Nov. 21st. Up before day preparing to leave - dark drizzly morning. Took train for Rome with family. After a more pleasant ride than was expected, landed at Rome in due time - went with family to father Moore's and thence proceeded to join Reg. in camp.

Sunday Nov. 22nd. A lovely sabbath morning - the air warm and balmy. - "Welcome sweet day of rest" - but alas, there is no rest here! The day spent idly in conversation or occasional retirement - read but little. How hard to forget the world, and confine the thoughts on spiritual things! How easy to lose sight of heaven, "where fragrant flowers immortal bloom."

Monday Nov. 23rd. Cold & windy.

Tuesday Nov. 24th. Sent Griffin to So. Ca.


Thursday Nov. 26th. Cold - engaged piece meat of Mr. Mobley.

Friday Nov. 27th. Went into town to see my family. Bad news from the "front."

Saturday Nov. 28th. Cold day. Spent day in camp. Wrote to Col. Swift.

Sunday Nov. 29th. Went into town - bad news afloat - much excitement. India anxious to get home. Wrote to Mr. Swift. Rec'd letter from Col. S. Lithonia.

Tuesday Dec. 1st. Dreary December has arrived with a bitter cold morning. No mail today.


Thursday Dec. 3rd. Cold morning.


Dec. 13th Sabbath evening - How calm, how solemn! Seated upon the brow of a high hill overlooking the "Coosa River" (several miles below Rome) what magnificent prospects lie before me! The bright rays of the evening sun, peering between the clouds and the hoarse roaring thunder in the far distance enhances the beauteous scene! Oh that our land was free - free from the desolating effects of cruel war! "How long, Oh! Lord, how long!"

December 31st, 1863
Sad dreary day - stormy with violent gusts of wind, and showers of rain in rapid succession - and cold withal. At times the hoarse rumbling of thunder would sound the fare-well knell of the departing year. "1863," its events are past & a bloody page will be in the annals of the world! History, in time to come, will speak of the hard fought battles and deeds of blood that render it memorable. Fare well forever. Thousands who were living to see you when in, are now "sleeping the sleep that knows no awakening." Pass on! Fly away in the circle of years, and let us welcome the new forth-coming year! May its history be bright! - may it witness the end of this sad destructive war! Adieu forever!!!
1863

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<td>Oct. 6th</td>
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<td>71</td>
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<td>9</td>
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Oct. 13th | Rec'd Beef Cattle | 77 |
| " 14th | Turned over to Butcher | 9 |
| " 15th | " " " " | 9 |
| " 16th | " " " " | 9 |
| " 17th | " " " " | 9 |
| " 19th | " " " " | 13 |
| " 20th | " " " " | 12 |
| " 21st | " " " " | 8 |
| " 22nd | " " " " | 8 |
|       | Total       | 77 |

Oct. 22 | Rec'd Beef Cattle | 18 |
| " 23 | Turned over Butcher | 9 |
| " 24 | " " " | 9 |
|       | 18 |

Oct. 26th | Rec'd & turned over to Butcher | 17 |
Jan. 12th 1863

Robt. E. Adams        Exit June 9th
Archer Avary
Robert M. Brown
William C. Brown
Frank S. Brown
Willie C. Belisle
James H. Kirkpatrick
Thos. S. Kirkpatrick
William W. Kirkpatrick
David McCulloch
Thomas H. Chivers
Samuel K. T. Winn
Paul Winn          Exit Mar. 26th
Ezekiel H. Mason

Jan.13th

William F. George
Robt. M. Clarke
Thos. A. Garr
David P. Chandler
Willie S. Garr

Jan. 14th

Albert A. Clarke
Moody B. Avary
Jan. 19th
William R. Marchman
Wm. T. Akers
Clarence V. Angier
N. H. Angier
Edgar A. Angier

Jan. 21st
Joseph F. Liddell

Jan. 26th
Charles W. Skelton
John W. Dyer Ex. Mar. 20

Jan. 27th
Robt. W. Westmoreland

March 2nd
John T. Payden

March 30th
Wm. E. McAllister Ex June 9th
Jan. 12, 1863

Emma T. Chivers
Fannie F. Chivers  Exit
Nancy C. Garr
Ellen Garr
Fredonia L. Hoyle
Lizzie Mason
Lizzie O. Pate
Mary O. Pate
Mary A. Williams

June 10th

Lucy E. Willard
Mary L. Willard
Laura Winn

Jan. 13th

Eugenia A. Clarke
Florina George
Sarah Ellen Hoyle

Jan. 21st

Maggie Morgan  Ex. June 16th

Feb. 2nd

Sarah E. Edwards
Note: Last page (containing list of girls' names attending Academy) is illegible.

Note: Four inserts containing various memoranda are included in the 1863 Diary. Three of these are legible. One is quite faded.
DIARY

OF

BENJ. T. HUNTER

DECATUR, GEORGIA

1864
DIARY OF BENJAMIN T. HUNTER

Decatur, Georgia

1864

Jan. 1st 1864

"New Years day" —Friday. Cold, blustery weather, with occasional showers of rain and snow—said to be the coldest day within forty years, excepting the "cold Saturday".

Welcome "New Year" —would that thy course could be as bright and prosperous, as the year that has just closed has been bloody! At thy commencement the prospect of our country is gloomy indeed; the country deluged in blood; while misery and sorrow stalk abroad in the land! The bright dawn of balmy peace in in the distant future—"How long, oh Lord, how long!"

In camp near Rome "biding my time" How long and weary are the days in camp! Such will not always be.

Jan. 2nd 1864

Saturday. Cold! Cold! Very cold!!! The water courses very full, and the back water frozen over. Took walk with Caden and Akers to see the Coosa River.

Sun. Jan. 3rd, 1864

Weather moderating. Went to town—took dinner there—was surprised to meet Lee Moore, Fannie S— and Miss Henley from Decatur. Returned to camp in afternoon.

Mon. Jan. 4th

Damp, drizzly day. Capt. Candler returned to camp from visit home—
Brought letter from W. Kirkpatrick.

Tues. Jan. 5th

Cloudy in morning—sun shone out before noon—the weather became pleasant. Wrote to mine wife. W. B. Key of Co. A put under arrest for deserting his post while on duty.

Wednesday, Jan. 6th.

Occasional showers of sleet and rain fell during the day, very cold. "Election day" for County Officers. Made application for furlough and had the good luck to get it approved. Went to town in evening and spent few hours.

Thurs. Jan. 7th

Damp cold day. The ground frozen and plated with ice. Iceicles hanging from the trees and eaves of houses.

Left camp on 15 days furlough in company with Lieut. Masters. Cold riding on the crowded train. Reached Decatur at 4½ o'clock, and was soon with the "loved ones at home". How pleasant is home compared to the cold, dull camp! ! !

Friday, Jan. 8th

Spent day at home, weather to cold to be out. Met with several members of "Co. A" in Decatur. Wrote to G. N. Caden, subscribed for "Daily Memphis Appeal".

Saturday, Jan. 9th

Weather still very cold. Assisted in burying Mr. Adam Hoyle—funeral services conducted by Dr. Wilson of Atlanta.

Sunday, Jan. 10th

A quiet cold sabbath. Attended service at the Methodist Church with India and Mrs. Coe—preaching by Rev. Mr. Crawford (circuit rider) Spent afternoon at home.
Monday, Jan. 11th

Cold, drizzly day—spent forenoon at home—the afternoon with Mrs. Kirk.

Tuesday, Jan. 12th

Water frozen on trees. Very dark, damp day. Wrote to sister Sarah.
Walked to Depot in evening.

Wednesday, 13th

The weather is very wet and disagreeable as to render out-door exercise impracticable. Spent day at home with wife and babies.

Thursday, Jan. 14th

Still cloudy. Left Decatur on Mr. Kirk's "magnificent" for Belmont—called on Mr. Clarke (at Brightwater) and took dinner—in evening went to Mr. Swift's. 10 o'clock P.M. at Belmont. Have just retired to my room—our old room—the place hallowed by many pleasant and sacred recollections.

Friday, Jan. 15th

Left Belmont for Decatur—reached home by noon. Met with J. R. Bradberry and paid him for meat $468.75—borrowed the money from Mr. Kirkpatrick. Weather cold and windy.

Saturday, Jan. 16th

Clear, beautiful day. Met with several friends from camp, viz: Morris, Cadem, Davis and others. Called with India on Mr. Willard at night.

Sunday, Jan. 17th

Clear day. Attended Pres. Church—preaching by Dr. Holmes. India and I called in the evening to see Mrs. Kirk.

Monday, Jan. 18th

Sent Isam to plantation for corn, forage etc. Wet day.

Very Cold—at home during the day employed in various ways.

Wednesday, Jan. 20th.

Clear, windy. Went to station in buggy with Mr. Kirk (India and Mrs. Coe went on train) to move Mrs. Cie's furniture to Decatur. Put up the piano and had music at night.

Thursday, Jan. 21st.

Beautiful day. My furlough expires at 5 o'clock this evening. Assisted Mrs. in fitting up her parlor furniture. Attended Artillery drill mass Decatur with India, Mrs. Coe, Miss Henly and others. Left Decatur at 7½ o'clock, in company with T. N. Caden for camp—arrived at Kingston at 1½ o'clock.

Friday, Jan. 22nd

In camp again. Remained at Kingston until 7 o'clock. Cold, unpleasant time. Arrived at Rome at 9 o'clock and was soon enroute for camp. Went to work to set things in order—to get wood. Renewed my bed (pile of straw) andc.

Saturday, Jan. 23rd.

A lovely day—clear, calm and beautiful. On "Cemetery Hill" (overlooking the city of Rome) with the 10th Reg.—about 65 men—awaiting demon stations from the yankees.

The camp was set in commotion this morning at 1 o'clock by the arrival of a courier, bringing orders for the Reg. to be ready to march at a moment's warning. The yankees were then making a raid upon Rome would soon be there. Considerable excitement in camp. At daylight further orders came and the
Reg. immediately took up their line of march for the scene of conflict. Not long after leaving camp the Reg. was halted on "Cemetery hill" to await further development. Meanwhile pickets were sent out to make the necessary reconnaissance.

11 o'clock A.M. our ears are now greeted with the noise of a wagon-train passing at double-quick through "De Sota" — the rattling wheels, cracking whips—shouting drivers indicated that "all's not well" in the front.

3 o'clock P.M. The men who have lazily spent the day lolling in the warm sunshine have just been aroused by an order from Gen. Iverson to return to camp and hold themselves in readiness for action.

Lt. Caden & myself, having obtained leave of absence, went over into the city and remained a short time—afterward returned to camp to dream of the great and ever-to-be-remembered battle of Rome.

Sunday, Jan. 24th.

Another lovely day. Remained in camp during the forenoon— in evening took long walk with Archer Avary to the Coosa River. Wrote to India.

Monday, Jan. 25th.

Weather continues beautiful and pleasant. Reading "Clara Moreland".


The beautiful warm weather produces feeling of laziness and general indifference. Rec'd 3 papers (Memphis Appeal, from India.

Wednesday, Jan. 27th.

Commenced reading "Alice Seymour. Had fine success in tanning some squirrel skins.

Thursday, Jan. 28th.

Warm and pleasant to Dr. Holmes in reference to opening my school.
Rece'd letter from India and answered it. One or two Companies of our Reg. (10 Reg. Ga. S. G.) mustered out of service. Devoted part of the evening to the "art of tanning".

Friday, Jan. 29th

Beautiful weather. Signs of rain in evening—light sprinkle after dark. Spent most of the day making out the Company Payrolls.

Saturday, Jan. 30th.

Warm and cloudy—several light showers during the day. Finished the Payrolls. Ours guns and accoutrements returned to the ordnance Sergeant. A long, dull evening.

Saturday night. Our terms of service is rapidly drawing to a close. Another week will probably find me with the loved ones at my own pleasant home. How lonesome and tedious are the long hours we are wasting in camp! Without guns and ammunition—without provisions—we are here quietly awaiting the pleas of our commanders to muster us out of service.

Sunday, Jan. 31st.

Signs of rain. Made a call on my friends in town—to dinner there—in evening returned to camp—dull times.

Monday, Feb 1st.

Several hard showers early in morning—clear before noon. Made some arrangements preparatory to being mustered out of service.

Tuesday, Feb 2nd.

Great bustle and commotion in camp, preparatory to bidding a final adieu to the muddy walks and unpleasant accommodations of "Camp Mobley" (near Rome Ga.) At an early hour we, "Co. A" were en route to the city—and soon after we arrived there were mustered out of service. Being a free man once more, I
passed my time pleasantly with my friends in town. Took dinner and lunch for supper—left Rome at 4 o'clock P.M. arrived at Kingston in due time, and there remained until 11 o'clock, awaiting the arrival of the train.

Wed. Feb. 3rd.

Reached home at five this morning.

Thursday, Feb. 4th.

At home. Spent day at home—saw several old friends and acquaintances. Subscribed for the "Daily Intelligencer".

Friday, Feb. 5th.

Went with Isom (Mr. Kirk's team) to plantation after load of fodder and shucks. F. Lee Moore went to Dr. Dr. Avary's to spend night.

Saturday, Feb. 6th 1864

Cloudy, cool morning. Took dinner with Mr. Kirkpatrick. Had meat hung.

Sunday, Feb. 7th.

Clear day—cool. Preaching by Mr. Rogers at Pres. Church—spent evening at home.

Monday, Feb 8th.

Clear day. My school opened with twenty-four pupils; had the Academy put in order and commenced my daily avocation—"to teach the young idea how to shoot". Trustees met. Bought a horse and wagon from Mr. Kirkpatrick at $650. Wrote to H. G. H. Miller, Lithonia, to buy some tallow, &c.

Tuesday, Feb. 9th.

Addition of one in school. Cool day. Received note from Miss Missouri Stokes, relative to the formation of a music class. Fan Terrie has very bad cold. Rec'd County money from J. B. Wilson, Esq. $70.

Wednesday, Feb 10th.

Clear day—cool in morning—pleasant in middle of day. India, Mrs. Coe
and Lee went to Atlanta. Attended prayer meeting at 4½ o'clock at Pres. Church.
Commenced gardening—Planted onion buttons &c.  

Thursday, Feb. 11th.

Beauti ful weather. Moved downstairs. Sowed some seeds in garden, mustard, Rale, Tomatoes, &c.

Friday, Feb. 12th

Another beautiful day. Sent Isom to Mill. Rec'd letter from Sister Sarah, and answered it at night.

Saturday, Feb. 13th

In forenoon spent few hours at working in garden—planted Irish potatoes, Walked to Depot in evening with India and Mrs. Coe, Lee and Fannie Terrie.

Sunday, Feb. 14th

Attended Sabbath School and preaching (by Mr. Clarke) at Methodist Church and Pres. Church (Mr. Wood) at 3 o'clock and at night.

Monday, Feb. 15th.

Dark, wed' day. School opened with an addition of seven—total 33.
Rec'd a "P. P. C." from L. N. Paden.

Tuesday, Feb. 16th

"March weather". Clear and windy. Addition of 7 in school. India rec'd letter from Carrie requesting Isom to be sent home immediately.

Wednesday, Feb. 17th


Thursday, Feb. 18th

Another very cold disagreeable day. At intervals during the day-light showers of snow would fall. Twenty-nine years ago, this day, my eyes first
beheld the light of day. Another "Milepost" on the journey of Life! Time flies, oh how rapidly!

Friday, Feb. 19th.

Clear, but very cold. The second week of school closed with 40 pupils.

Class in Latin commenced reading "Virgil".

Saturday, Feb. 20th

Went to "Bobshela" in wagon—took Annie Terrie with me—met Mr. Swift there. Cold day—cloudy part of the day. Rec'd letter from brother S—

Sunday, Feb. 21st.

Weather moderating. Attended Sabbath School and preaching at Ras. Church (Mr. Rogers) In afternoon walked to "Chattanooga" with Mr. Kirk. India sick in bed—chilled and Rheumatism.

Monday, Feb. 22nd

Pretty day. Addition of 6 in school. Wrote to Col. Swift.

Tuesday, Feb. 23rd.

"Military" and "Tax Laws" in morning papers. Again exempt from Military service while in pursuit of my vocation.

Wednesday, Feb. 24th.

Windy weather. Painted some globes for benefit of school.

Attended prayer meeting. Listened to an interesting lecture by Rev. M. D. Wood. Mr. W. consented to deliver an address before my school on

Friday evening next.

Thursday, Feb. 25th.

Pretty day. Rec'd letter from Col. Swift.

Friday, Feb. 25th.

Beautiful Spring weather. In afternoon had addresses before my school
Rev. Messrs. Holmes and Wood. Went to Depot to hear news from the front.
Mr. Wood, Col. Brown and W. W. Davis took tea with me.

Saturday, Feb. 27th.
Spent forenoon at home at work. Met with Dr. Avary and Mr. Clarke in evening. Spent personal hours in pleasant conversation.
News from the front favorable.

Sunday, Feb. 28th.
Attended Sabbath School and preaching in Baptist Church (C. House) by Dr. Holmes.

Monday, Feb. 29th.
Warm—pleasant. Planted some seeds in garden. Rec'd a handsome present—a $50 Hat—from "old woman".

Tuesday, March 1st.

Wednesday, March 2d.
Clear day—weather cool.
Attended a prayer meeting in evening and "singing party" at Mrs. Stone's at night. Mr. Pearson sick in bed.

Thursday, March 3d.
Spent evening at work in Garden.

Friday, March 4th.
Hazy weather—pleasant. Had general exercise in Geography. Preaching at night by Mr. Wood.
Saturday, March 5th.

Attended church in forenoon, prayer meeting in evening and preaching at night.

Sunday, March 6th.


Monday, March 7th

Addition of 4 in School. Rev. Mr. Wood took tea with us. The "meeting" closed at night.

Tuesday, March 8th.

Several thundershowers last night. The ground wet, the air hazy though fresh—pleasant. India and Mrs. Coe went to Atlanta. General Morgan's command preparing to leave. India bought calico dress for $108—twelve dollars per yard. The Watters and Walter came—the latter to go to school.

Wednesday, March 9th.

Blustery day. Walter Watters commenced school. Rec'd of L.L. Watters $150.00 for board and tuition of Walter. The choir met at my house. Spent several hours pleasantly with vocal music. Began to rain about dark. Isom came with Sam's horse on route to Mississippi.

Thursday, March 10th.

Very heavy rains during the past night. The ground very wet—the air is fresh and pleasant—warm afternoon. Wallie Barron came on down train and remained until 10 o'clock P.M. Brother S. arrived on up train en route to Mississippi.

Friday, March 11th.

Windy and clear. Sam came to Academy in afternoon. Took walk to
Depot and to "Chatanooga" after supper. Called on Mr. Kirk (with Sam) and spent few hours pleasantly.

Saturday, March 12th.

Spent day at home. Made some confederate shoe-blacking. W. J. Underwood called on me. Rec'd late call from Mr. Kirk.

Sunday, March 13th.

Clear and windy. Attended Sabbath School and Pres Church—preaching by Rev. Dr. Baird of Tenn. An excellent sermon.

Mon, March 14th.

Brother S. left for Mississippi. Organized 2nd Gram. class.

Tuesday, March 15th.

Change in weather—getting cooler. Sold my "nag" for $500.

Wednesday, March 16th.

Cold windy day—plenty of ice. Rec'd letter from brother Theodore.

Thursday, March 17th.

Cold weather. The ground frozen and covered with heavy frost. (The fruit trees in full bloom). Rec'd note from Col. Swift. Attended singing at Mr. Wiland's at night.

Friday, March 18th.

Blustery, March weather—not so cold as yesterday, though there was frost and ice this morning.

Saturday, March 19th.

Pretty day. Spent an hour at work in garden and the remainder of the day doing a variety of "job work". Washed over my blackboards, made some shoe-blacking &c. Subscribed for "Confederacy".

Sunday, March 20th.

The last day of winter. Several showers of sleet fell during the day.
Went to Atlanta on morning train to procure a coffin for (old) Mrs. Kirkpatrick. Attended church there and Sabbath School. Rain after night.

Monday, March 21st

Spring has set in with cold rain and wind—Rain fell incessantly all last night. Mrs. Kirkpatrick buried about one o'clock—the funeral services conducted by Dr. Wilson.

Militia organized.

Tuesday, March 22d

No school. A heavy snow fell during the forenoon—very cold. The ground was covered with sleet and ice previous to the fall of snow. At noon the snow ceased to fall being then nearly 3 inches deep. Had several engagements at "snowballing".

Wednesday, March 23d

Clean day—the snow melting rapidly. The ground "sloshy".

Thursday, March 24th

Cloudy, cold and windy. India and Mrs. Coe went to Atlanta. Disagreeable day.

Friday, March 25th

Cloudy with occasional showers. Cold.

Saturday, March 26th

Went to Lithonia on freight train. Met Mr. Swift there—rec'd of him $524.00 Bought bunch of factory thread at $45.00. Returned on evening freight—brought with me Mr. S's. fancy clock and thermometer.

Sunday, March 27th

Attended church in C. House (Baptists). In afternoon took long walk with Mr. Kirk to his plantation—on returning found several nice geological specimens.
Monday, March 28th

Addition of six in school. Pretty morning, rain in afternoon. India and Mrs. Coe went to Atlanta—purchased factory yarn at $50 per bunch.

Tuesday, March 29th

Weather cool.

Wednesday, March 30th

Ami Williams of Decatur died about noon. Mrs. Coe had company to come from Atlanta (dancing party).

Thursday, March 31st

Sat up last night with the corpse of Mr. Williams. Made some blue and red ink.

Friday, April 1st

"April showers" last night—the ground wet, the air cool. Wrote to father.

Saturday, April 2d

Cool, cloudy and windy day. Went to Atlanta and remained until evening. Bought Tellurian.

Sunday, April 3d


Monday, April 4th

Wet, cold day.

Tuesday, April 5th

Pretty day. Additions of 6 in school—total seventy-seven. Sale-day.

Wednesday, April 6th

Man shot in field near Mr. Swanton's.

Thursday, April 7th

Day passed as usual—sunshine and shadows.
Friday, April 8th  Fast day.

Preaching by Mr. Hughes in Pres. Church. Sowed some garden seeds in afternoon.

Saturday, 9th

Signs of rain. A party left Decatur on an excursion to Stone Mountain. India and myself withdrew from the party. Spent day at home. Cut handles on set of chisels—made ferrells &c.

Sunday, April 10th.

Attended Sabbath School and preaching at Methodist Church by Rev. Mr. Means.

Monday, April 11th

Pretty day. School increasing. Addition of five.

Tuesday, April 12th

Cloudy and cool.

Wednesday, April 13th

Beautiful day—worked in garden after school.

Thursday, April 14th

Cloudy—cool. Miss Julia K. and Albert C—called in route home from Atlanta.

Friday, April 15th

1st Quarter of school ends. Wet morning—sunshine and showers during the day. In evening called with India on Mr. and Mrs. Kirk. Cleaned and oiled my gun preparatory to hunting tomorrow.

Saturday, April 16th

Bright and clear in morning—every indication of a beautiful day. Started early in company with Josiah Willard—Lemuel Grant and Walter Watters on a hunting and fishing excursion, but ere we reached the "scene of operation" the heavens were overspread with clouds and the cool wind rendered it anything else than pleasant. Made a passing call at "Mason's Mills"—thence returned home.
In afternoon took pleasant and refreshing nap, and did hard evening's work in garden.

Sunday, April 17th


Monday, April 18th

Addition of four in school—total 89. Miss Henley in Decatur on visit. Rain last night. Set out some cabbage plants. Had call from Dr. Holmes.

Tuesday, April 19th

Windy day. Board Trustee's met and resolved to enclose the Academy with suitable fence. Built bean tower (for butter beans). Went to Depot at 10 o'clock P.M. to meet Mrs. Moore, en route home from Augusta. Night unpleasantly cool.

Wednesday, April 20th

Beautiful clear day. Prepared Oxygen gas for illustrations in chemistry.

Thursday, April 21st

Showed experiments with "Chlorine Gas". Cloudy evening.

Friday, April 22nd

Spring weather. Had general exercise in Natural Philosophy—Forces.

Saturday, April 23rd


Sunday, April 24th

Showery—appearance of wet day. Cleared off about nine o'clock.
Windy. Attended Sabbath School and preaching in Court House (Baptist) by Rev. Mr. Hughes.

Monday, April 25th
Court Week in Decatur

Served on the Grand Jury as clerk. India and Lee went to Atlanta. A day of close confinement in the jury room.

April 26th Tuesday

Very busy day—serving on "Grand Jury". Mr. Clarke and Capt. E. Clarke took dinner with us.

Wednesday, April 27th

In the jury room until 3 o'clock P.M. Court adjourned. Walked to Depot in afternoon. Very warm—clear.

Thursday, April 28th

Resumed School. Pleasant Spring weather.

Friday, April 29th

Weather warm—signs of rain. Mrs. Watters, Henry and Dora came on down evening train.

Saturday, April 30th

Thunder shower last night—fine season. Transplanted cabbage and lettuce. Met with a portion of my School at Academy and spent greater portion of the day there. Had temporary fence put around the yard. Thunder showers in afternoon.

Sunday, May 1st

Appearance of rain. Mr. Rogers failing to come, a prayer meeting was held in the church. Received letter from Sister S—.

Monday, May 2d

Addition of 3 in school. Pleasant day. Rec'd letter from brother at Tuscaloosa, Ala.
Tuesday, May 3rd

Addition of 2 in school, total 94. Wrote to Sister Sarah.

Wednesday, May 4th

Beautiful day. India and Mrs. Watters went to Atlanta to hear
"Blind Tom", the pianist perform. Sold some flour (indifferent quality)
at 80cts.

Thursday, May 5th

Clear settled weather. Making arrangements for "Mountain excursion"
tomorrow. In afternoon dismissed my school until Monday.

Friday, May 6th

A lovely Spring day. At an early hour my school and a goodly
number of the citizens of Decatur were at the Depot awaiting the train
to take us on a "trip of pleasure" to Stone Mountain. The train came—
three cars were filled with the party—and ere long we reached our place
of destiny. Time passed pleasantly and rapidly as with youthful feet,
we scaled the rugged steps of the "granite Mountain". The day glided
pleasantly away, everyone enjoying the trip.

Saturday, May 7th

Mrs. Watters set out for home. Spent the greatest part of the day
at work in garden.

Sunday, May 8th

Attended Sabbath School and preaching at Methodist Church. (Mr. Means)
Saw Miss Julia K—and Jennie C—there. A special prayer meeting att. Pres
Church at 4 o’clock. En behalf of our Country and in view of the impending
battles in Northern Ga. and Virginia.

Monday, May 9th

News from Dalton and Virginia favorable. Very warm day.

Tuesday, May 10th

Signs of rain—light showers in afternoon. Transplanted some cabbage
and tomato plants.

Wednesday, May 11th

Thunder showers last night—cloudy during day—cool in evening.

Thursday, May 12th

Weather cool.

Friday, May 13th

Weather cool.

Saturday, May 14th

Spent day at Academy enclosing yard.

Sunday, May 15th

Attended Sabbath School. Mr. Rogers, having failed to come, the
pulpit was supplied by Rev. Mr. Hughes.

Monday, May 16th

Addition of three in school—total 99. Exciting news from the
front (northern Georgia)/

Tuesday, May 17th

Lieut. Gates and his aide arrived (refugees from Rome. Rome evacuated
last evening by order of Gen. Johnson.

Wednesday, May 18th

Lieut. Gates left for the front. Militia and civil officers called
out by Gov. Brown, to assist in repelling the invaders.

Thursday, May 19th


Friday, May 20th

Rec'd a letter from brother Sam on Maj. Gen. S. D. Lee's staff (at
Demopolis, Ala.) Borrowed $300 of Col. Brown.
Saturday, May 21st

Lieut. Gates returned on 3 o'clock A.M. train. Spent day at home. Received numerous calls from friends. Bought some lard at $4.50 per pound—Ham at $4.50 and Sugar at $6.00 per lb.

Sunday, May 22nd.

Attended Sabbath School, and preaching in C. House by Dr. Holmes. Special prayer meeting in Pres. Church at 4 o'clock P.M. in behalf of our country. Mrs. Mattox died at 10½ o'clock A.M. Weather warm. War excitement high in Decatur.

Monday, May 23rd


Tuesday, May 24th

Excitement still high. Made application for my exemption papers—prepared the necessary articles of writning &c. Rain at night.

Wednesday, May 25th

Excitement news continue. Report says Federal army is leaving the Railroads and moving toward Dallas. Johnson's Wagon train is this side of the Chattahoochee.

Saw several refugees from Rome, Ga. Attended evening prayer meeting at Church. Rev. Mr. Hughes officiated. Troubled with headache.

Thursday, May 26th

Cloudy and cool. News of the capture of wagons and prisoners
by Gen. Wheeler at Cassville. Lieut. Gates came on down on evening
train. Heavy cannonading heard at intervals during the day. Had
violent headache in afternoon.

Friday, May 27th

Morning clear and cool

News favorable from the front.

Saturday, May 28th

India and I went to Capt. Candler's to take dinner. Had pleasant
time. Strawberries in abundance. Planted some seeds in garden in
afternoon.

Sunday, May 29th

Rev. Mr. Hughes preached at Pres. Church.

Monday, May 30th

Weather warm and dry.

Tuesday, May 31st

Exciting news from the front daily come.

Wednesday, June 1st

Lieut. Gates came in evening train. Heavy cannonading heard
this evening.

Thursday, June 2nd

Signs of rain.

Friday, June 3rd

Splendid rain in evening. Transplanted a number of cabbage
plants.

Saturday, June 4th

Wet day. Spent day at home. Called at Judge Hook's to see
Rev. Messrs. Caldwell and Alexander—invited them to preach
tomorrow.
Sunday, June 5th

Attended Sabbath School—dark morning—appearance of rain.
Preaching by Rev. Caldwell in morning—(a splendid sermon) and
by Mr. Alexander in afternoon.
Messrs. C & A took tea with us.

Monday, June 6th


Tuesday, June 7th

Sale day—but few persons out.

Wednesday, June 8th

Terrie sick with measles. Several sprinkles of rain.

Thursday, June 9th

Hazy morning. Our Army now four miles above Marietta. Heavy
rain in evening. Transplanted cabbage, okra &c. Fannie broken out
with measles. Adj. Prescott’s child died at 7 O’clock.

Friday, June 10th

Morning warm, still and hazy. Preaching at Methodist Church.
Several hard showers accompanied with wind and thunder during the
day.

Saturday, June 11th

Went to Atlanta to get my Exemption papers. Bought 3 water
Buckets for Academy at $10.00 apiece, and Physiologie (for class)
at $5.00 each. Renewed subscription to Daily Confederacy for 3 months.
Several washing rains with thunder in afternoon. Lieut. Gates came
by private conveyance from Atlanta. "All quiet in front".
Sunday, June 12th

Dark, rainy day—cold and windy. Weather very disagreeable. Children just recovering from Measles and are impatient and fretful in consequence of close confinement in the house.

Monday, June 13th

A dark gloomy day, windy showery and cold. But few pupils in school—dismissed at noon. In afternoon made Alice pair cloth shoes.

Tuesday, June 14th

Cloudy—no rain today. Gen. Polk killed by a shell at 11 o'clock today near Mariette. Sad loss to our country! Heard cannon today. Wrote to Father(at night).

Wednesday, June 15th

Clear in forenoon—cloudy at noon. Incessant cannonading during day at the front. Went to Mr. Kirk's after school.

Thursday, June 16th

Clear, warm day. Sign of rain at night. A portion of Wheeler's Cavalry near Decatur recruiting their horsemen.

Friday, June 17th

Cloudy—appearance of rain. Several light showers in afternoon. India making preparations to visit Macon tomorrow.

Saturday, June 18th

Stormy day—rain and wind—dark and disagreeable!! Spent day mostly within doors—repaired Fannie's wagon—made pig-pen &c &c. Bought side of Sole leather at $12.00 per pound. Cost $168.00. Received letter from brother Sam, Meridian Mississippi. India trip to Macon postponed because of bad weather.
Sunday, June 19th

The sun shone but about 8 o'clock the clouds began to disperse.
The ground is thoroughly saturated.

Monday, June 20th

Rose at 3 o'clock. Set out with India at an early hour enroute
to Macon—reached Atlanta in due time, and returned to Decatur by
School time. The sun rose clear, but was soon overcast with clouds.
Several showers—one very hard on me before I reached home. Several
showers during the day. Made a lot of parrels forawl handles.
Lonesome at home during the absence of "old 'owan". Wrote to India,
Macon Ga.

Tuesday, June 21st

Sunshine and rain. A number of very hard rains during the day—
the ground thoroughly wet.

Wednesday, June 22nd

Clear and warm. Sunshine is cheering after so much rain. Lieut.
Gates came in evening—(walked from Atlanta)

Thursday, June 23rd

Another day of sunshine. Weather warm. Rec'd letter from India
at Macon.

Friday, June 24th

Weather clear and very hot.

Saturday, June 25th

Summer equater. Went to the Kirk's. Took dinner there—and in
afternoon went to Atlanta for India and baby. Reached home in due
time. Purchased shoe lasts, pegs, &c. (to take up the trade! !)
Mrs. Coe returned from Macon on morning freight.

Sunday, June 26th
Sunday, June 26th

Attended Sabbath School and preaching in C. House by Dr. Holmes.

In afternoon attended the burial of Mrs. Maddox, who died yesterday.

Weather hot.

Monday, June 27th

Weather sultry. **Heavy cannonading at the front.** Shower in afternoon.

Bought sides upper leather at $50.00 and had shoe knife made.

Tuesday, June 28th

Read an account of the terrible slaughter of the enemy yesterday
(at the time we heard the cannonading. L. G. Watters came—has been
to Rome since its occupation by the Yankees. **Cannonading all day.**

Wednesday, June 29th

Cloudy, appearance of rain. Cut out, lined and bound pair of shoes.

Gathered lot of cucumbers for pickles.

Thursday, June 30th

Morning dark and gloomy—showers early in morning—sunshine at ten
o'clock. Heavy rain from 1 to 2 o'clock. **Rapid cannonading this morning
before day.** Mr. Kirk called in afternoon.

Friday, July 1st

Clear and bright. **Air pure and fresh. Vegetation green and
vigorou.** **Rec'd letter from sister Sarah.** First term of school
closed today.

Saturday, July 2nd

Finished my shoes, **and put them on.** Made out my School records
correct for the term just closed. India went to Atlanta.

Sunday, July 3rd

Preaching at Pres. Church by Mrs. Rogers. **Occasional cannon-firing
heard during the day.** Report says our Army falling back to the
River. (Chattahoochee)

Monday, July 4th

"The glorious fourth!" The first thing that greeted our ears at early dawn was the firing of cannon—not to celebrate the birthday of our independence, but to throw the missiles of death and destruction into the ranks of an invading foe. Heavy cannonading, amounting almost to an incessant roar, distinctly heard from early in the morning until noon.

In afternoon went Blackberry hunting (near Mr. Moore's) with India and children, Lee Laura and Mrs. Coe.

Lt. Gates came about dark and left at 10 o'clock (on train) with Laura, bound for Macon.

Tuesday, July 5th

No firing heard today. Johnson now occupying his fortifications beyond the River Chattahoochee. Wrote to Sister Sarah.

Wednesday, July 6th

Considerable excitement in Decatur, in consequence of the near approach of the army—a good many citizens preparing to leave.

Collected several Accounts. Wrote to Professor Lane, Milledgeville, Ga.

Thursday, July 7th

A day of excitement at Decatur. Orders have been issued for the removal of all the Atlanta Hospitals. Commissary and Quartermaster stores, and the general impression is that Atlanta will be given up without a fight. The people here packed up, amid confusion and bustle, yet none can leave in consequence of the Government having exclusive control of the railroads. The machinery at Durand's Mill is now being carried to the Depot for shipment.
The thought of leaving our pleasant homes and going out we know not where, is by no means a pleasant one.

Wrote to Father and to Rev. L. W. Parsons, Greensboro.

Friday, July 8th

Excitement high. Small attendance in school.

Saturday, July 9th

In view of "war rumors" I went to work to pack up my school apparatus. Excitement grows higher and sensational reports more frequent as the Army comes nearer. 500 wagons burned at Decatur.

Sunday, July 10th

The Sabbath day—but not a "day of rest." All turmoil and confusion in Decatur—everybody packing up to become refugees. The Commissary and Quartermaster stores removed to Depot for transportation. Finished packing my apparatus, and sent it the "Nashville & Chattanooga cars" for transportation.

Monday, July 11th

Another busy day. Preparation made to move "Conscript camp". Scenes of excitement and confusion. Johnson's Army now south of the Chattahoochee, and the bridges burned. Moved some of my plunder to the country for safe keeping. Sent Griffin to Carolina to have conveyance to meet us at Washington on Wednesday next.

Tuesday, July 12th

Up very early with my family and made an effort to leave on 3 o'clock passenger train—but without success. The Trains' crowded to overflowing. Took the freight train at 8 o'clock and soon was moving away to more quiet regions. After a day of slow tiresome travelling,
we arrived at Union Point before dark and spent the night there (in the Ladies saloon)

Wednesday, July 13th

Left Union Point at an early hour, and arrived at Barnett about 9 o'clock—remained there until 10 o'clock P.M. Met with brother Sam at Barnett enroute home from Mississippi. Reached Washington at 3, and remained there until next morning.

Thursday, July 14th

Left Washington about day-light in private conveyance and after a wearysome day's journey, reached my old home after dark—all tired, the children worn out!!

Friday, July 15th

Spent day at home resting from our travels. Sam and Carrie came down to spend day. J. M. Martin spent day with us.

Saturday, July 16th

At home. A day of quiet. Went fishing in afternoon. Good luck.

Sunday, July 17th

Warm day. Attended church at Lowndesville—Rev. Mr. Burkhead. Mrs. Wood returned from a visiting tour.

Monday, July 18th

Wrote to W. W. Davis & Mr. Moore, Decatur Ga. Walked to Sam's in afternoon.

Tuesday, July 19th

Read the papers and ect.

Wednesday, July 20th

Sam & family, Mr. Burkhead & family spent day with us.
Thursday, July 21st
Spent day in hunting and fishing with Sam—took dinner at Sam's.

Friday, July 22nd
Went to Esq. Giles in morning for mail—stayed till after dinner—no mail. Very anxious to hear from Ga.

Saturday, July 23rd
Went to Mrs. Burkhead's to have shoes made. Took dinner with Sam. Rumor says Decatur burnt & Ga. R. R. torn up ect. &ect. Several refugees passed from Georgia.

Sunday, July 24th
No preaching-day. Cool and windy—spent day at home.

Monday, July 25th
Weather cool, wrote to Profssrs. Lane and Woodrow - to Mssrs. Born & Swift at Lithonia. Good news from Georgia - that the Federals have been repulsed near Decatur and a number captured.

Tuesday, July 26th
Walked to Post Office - received letter from J. J. Willard, Macon, Ga. Spent day reading papers etc. Sam & Carrie spent day with us. Wm. Giles & family & Mrs. Liddell came and spent day. Sent Griffin to Georgia.

Wednesday, July 27th
Numerous light showers during the day. Wm. Giles & family left in afternoon.

Thursday, July 28th
Mrs. Liddell left for home.
Friday, July 29th

(At home). Went fishing in afternoon, - no luck.

Saturday, July 30th

Spent day at Sam's with India & children.

Sunday, July 31st

Attended preaching at Rock River by Mr. Burkhead. Shower in evening.

Monday, August 1st.

Went to Abbeville C. H. (sale day) - found India's stray trunk there. Warren Davis came home with me. Received thorough wetting en route home.

Tuesday, Aug. 2nd

By invitation spent day together with Sam's family and the family of W. A. Giles at Mr. Burkhead's.

Wednesday, Aug. 3rd

W. W. Davis set out for Mr. Hodges - called on Esq. Giles in afternoon and spent an hour or two pleasantly.

Thursday, Aug. 4th

Set out (in carriage) for Anderson with India and the little ones - reached Sister's in due time.

Friday, Aug. 5th

Went to church at "Roberts" - called at brother P. Gibert's - took dinner there etc.

Saturday, Aug. 6th

Took India & children to P. G.'s - thence went to church at "Roberts". Spent night with brother P. G.
Sunday, Aug. 8th

Communion Sabbath at "Robert's Church." Mr. Humphreys assisted by Rev. Mr. Forrest of Charleston. After preaching returned to Peter's. Dr. Walker came and spent night there. At night Dr. Walker, Peter and myself went to church at "Providence" (Methodist) and were pointed out as rebellious sinners for refusing to kneel at the demand of the circuit rider - became indignant and left the house. P. G. and Dr. W. called to fellow to account after preaching to know his reason for such unreasonable conduct.

Monday, Aug. 8th

Spent forenoon with Peter's family. Attended church at "Providence" - heard the "bulldog" growl. India had Dr. Walker to work on her teeth. Returned to Sister's later in afternoon.

Tuesday, Aug. 9th

Walked with Jennie to old "Rock Mills Academy" where twelve years ago I pursued the rugged road of science under the auspices of W. L. Boggs. Sister attempting to make me a school.

Wednesday, Aug. 10th

Set out from Sister's for Abbeville - reached home about noon. Syrup Mill in operation.

Thursday, Aug. 11th

At home - reading, writing, etc. Made some experiments with making syrup. Mr. Clark (over-seer) "flew" into a passion and quit the premises.

Friday, Aug. 12th

Sister Sarah set out to make me a school in my old neighborhood. Busy making syrup.

Saturday, Aug. 13th

Sister Sarah succeeding in making up a school (to commence on Monday next).
Earthquake felt - attended with noise.

Sunday, Aug. 14th

Attended church at Rocky River - Mr. Burkhead.

Monday, Aug. 15th

Opened school at Oak Grove (Over-seer's house) with 20 pupils. My thoughts wandered back to my old home and school at Decatur - now in the hands of the cruel Yankees. Six weeks ago I had charge of my school there - now I am here! What a change! Truly we know not what a day may bring forth.

Tuesday, Aug. 16th

Air rendered cool by shower last night. Addition of two in school - total twenty-one. Had syrup mill taken down for repairs. Rec'd letter from Sister E.B.C.

Wednesday, Aug. 17th

Clear & warm. Supervised the putting up & repairing the syrup mill. My school "in statu quo."

Thursday, Aug. 18th

Weather clear and very warm. Started the Syrup Mill again. John Miller & family spent day with us. --- Windy in afternoon.

Friday, Aug. 19th

Read in paper the sad intelligence of the death of Dr. Holmes of Decatur, Ga. --- found in his house and his house burnt down upon him. Can it be so?

Increase of one in school - H. C. Lee.

Saturday, Aug. 20th

Had a big day's work done at Syrup Mill - had fifty four Gallons made.

Took dinner at Sam's.
Sunday, Aug. 24th

Attended Church at Lowndesville - preaching by Mr. Burkhead. Several showers during the day. Joined the Bible Class at Lowndesville.

Monday, Aug. 22nd

The birth-day of little Alice - one year old today. Had wagon loaded with syrup & cotton and started to Augusta.

T. T. Cunningham came about dark.

Tuesday, Aug. 23rd

Mrs. Wood set out (in buggy) for Augusta. Prospect for increase in school. Mrs. Miller called on me at school.

Wednesday, Aug. 24th

Set the syrup mill to work at early hour. Increase of three in school. The Syrup Mill broke about 12 o'clock and thus blasted all hopes of making 60 Gallons today!

Thursday, Aug. 25th

Rode to Esq. Giles' Syrup Mill to see its construction etc that we may have one made. Sent Old Ben & Cato to get the necessary timbers. Addition of 2 in school.

Friday, Aug. 26th

Rec'd letter from W. W. Davis and one from "Old Jim" now within the Yankee lines near Stone Mountain.

Saturday, Aug. 27th

Spent morning riding over the farm - hunting trees for syrup mill rollers etc etc. Called at Sam's. Had several barrels of sorghum juice sent to the still.

Jacob returned with wagon from Augusta.

Sunday, Aug. 28th

Attended church at R. River - preaching by brother Theo. H.
Monday, Aug. 29th

Addition of 3 in school - total 31. Had timber for new mill (sorghum) hauled home.

Tuesday, Aug. 30th

Took several (squirrel) hides out of the tan. Rec'd letter from J. C. Moore, Augusta and W. W. Davis (at Hodges Depot).

Wednesday, Aug. 31st


Thursday, Sept. 1st

Had rollers for syrup mill turned - Mr. Alex. Cressey assisting. Mrs. Wood returned from Augusta - Mr. Mehan (blind) with her. Mr. Cunningham & Mrs. Liddell came in evening to spend night.

Friday, Sept. 2nd

Devoted the day exclusively (in school) to reading, punctuation, TC. Aleck Strapping (free-man of color) came at noon to work on syrup mill. Sam & Carrie spent day with us. T. T. Cunningham came in evening to spend night.

Saturday, Sept. 3rd

India went with Theo to church at Smyrna. Heavy rain about noon. Spent day at home supervising the workmen at syrup mill.

Sunday, Sept. 4th

Showers in morning - fair by 10 o'clock. Spent day at home.

Monday, Sept. 5th

Mr. Davis set out for Georgia, after my negroes. Report says Atlanta has fallen. Had new syrup mill put up.

Tuesday, Sept. 6th

Rec'd letter from Col. J. N. Swift, giving bad account of my negroes & property in Georgia. Recommended the syrup business. Started the new mill.
Wednesday, Sept. 7th

Cloudy, drizzly, cool and windy morning - every indication of an "equinoctial gale."

Father sent cotton to C. House - sold at $1.00 per pound.

Shot a hawk measuring 4 feet 2 inches.

The Gov'ts Proclamation came out calling for the immediate organization of the "Melish."

Thursday, Sept. 8th

Weather hazy & cool. The news of the fall of Atlanta confirmed - the Confederate army now near Jonesboro.

Mrs. Wood set out for Pendleton, taking with her Mr. Behan, her blind friend. J. M. Martin called & spent the evening.

Friday, Sept. 9th

Hazy weather continuous. Read news from Georgia - no better.

Saturday, Sept. 10th

All the men in the State of S. Carolina ordered to rendezvous at their respective Regimental Muster Grounds to organize for home defense.

In obedience to order, went to "Morrow's old field." - The boys over sixteen were ordered into camp - all others organized into companies.

Was elected 2nd Lieut. of "Penny's Creek Beat." Mr. Burkhead Captain.

Returned home in evening - called at Mr. Haskell's syrup mills to see his process of grinding, boiling, etc.

Sunday, Sept. 11th

Preaching at Rocky River - staid at home with F. Terrie, who is afflicted with a severe rising on her face. Sam & Carrie had their children baptised. Hot weather.

Monday, Sept. 12th

Several of my large boys missing this morning in consequence of the call made to increase the army. Weather windy and very dry.
Tuesday, Sept. 13th

Morning unpleasantly cool. Theodore set out for the Army.
Wrote to J. C. Moore, Augusta. Had J. M. Martin's syrup made up for
him.

Wednesday, Sept. 14th

Weather clear & cool in morning - windy and warmer in afternoon. Mr.
Pressly came up and closed the contract as overseer for father next
year. Had new trough made and placed at syrup mill. Mismissed my
school until Friday to attend "Muster" tomorrow. Mrs. Wood came down
and drilled my school in vocal music. Two of my boys, Epps & Adam,
arrived from Georgia, having escaped the yankees there. Great rejoic-
ing among the negroes in consequence of their arrival!

Thursday, Sept. 15th

Went up to the "Cross-roads" to attend "Muster" of "Penny's Creek

Made upwards of 50 gallons of syrup today. Sam and Carrie called in
afternoon.

Friday, Sept. 16th

Day passed as usual. No mail today. Had some general exercises in
school - gave the school a talk about the ancient philosophers of
Greece & Rome.

Started Jacob to Washington with wagon after Mr. Davis & my negroes.

Saturday, Sept. 17th

Had my cane cut and portion of it made up. Took up the "coopers trade" -
put hoops on syrup barrels & spent a part of the day cutting cane.

Meeting going on at Lowndesville. - Sarah & India attended.
Sunday, Sept. 18th

Wet day. Communion Sabbath at Lowndesville - too wet to attend.
Mr. Davis came (at night) with a portion of my negroes - the others, Griffin, Anderson, Old Jim and Netty choosing rather to remain and enjoy the hospitality of the Yankees.

Monday, Sept. 19th

Clear & pleasant. Addition of one (Robert Miller) in school.
Had the remainder of my cane made into syrup. Upwards of 55 gallons - good yield for 3/4 of an acre!!!

Tuesday, Sept. 20th

Sam & Leroy Lee left for Georgia. Rain in afternoon.

Wednesday, Sept. 21st

Cloudy day. Morning - several showers during the day. Sister E.B.C. and Sister M. G. & children came (about 10 o'clock). Received order to meet at "Morrow's Old field" on Saturday next (to complete the organization of the Militia). At work making wagons for the children.

Thursday, Sept. 22nd

Morning cloudy and damp. Several hard showers during the day. Made some little wagons for the children. T. T. Cunningham came in evening to spend night. W. W. Davis left for home.

Friday, Sept. 23rd

Showery.

Saturday, Sept. 24th

Wet during the forenoon. Accompanied Capt. (rev.) Burkhead to "Morrow's old field" - in obedience to the orders of our Militia Officers. Had several hard showers on us en route.

Sunday, Sept. 25th

Communion day at R. River. Mr. Burkhead assisted by Rev. D. Humphreys
Monday, Sept. 26th

Started early to Longmire's in Edgefield, in obedience to military orders.

Arrived there at 5 o'clock P. M. and struck camp with Giles, Pressly and others.

Tuesday, Sept. 27th

At Longmire's (alias "Shinburg") - was elected Lieutenant of the Militia.

Set out homeward at 2 o'clock & struck camp at Dr. Wideman's about dark.

Wednesday, Sept. 28th

Left camp before daybreak and reached home at 10 o'clock. Resumed school in the afternoon. Read letter from J. J. Willard, Macon, Ga.

Thursday, Sept. 29th

Signs of rain, weather windy & warm. Heavy shower with hard wind in afternoon. India & Sister Sarah went to Abbeville. Rec'd a handsome present - a pocket knife from the "ole 'oman."

Friday, Sept. 30th

Weather quite warm. Was honored with a call from Miss Alice Baskins & Miss Julia Walker (at school).

Saturday, Oct. 1st

Spent day at work. Made set of drills - attempted shoe-making but failed. Mr. Pressly sat in as overseer for father. Shower in evening.

Sunday, Oct. 2nd

A long dull day - no preaching. Took long walk through plantation with Joe Cunningham.

Monday, Oct. 3rd

Heavy rains last night - wet morning - only 15 people in attendance at school today. At noon shot another hawk.

Mrs. Burkhead came to spend the night.
Tuesday, Oct. 4th

Morning damp & Drizzly - sun shone out about nine.
Dr. Walker called & took dinner. Saw two soldiers of Wheeler's command, who were engaged in the Battle of Decatur.
Went with girls to hunt wild grapes after school. No mail today (the roads too muddy!!!)

Wednesday, Oct. 5th

Made a couple of "buckeyes" pipes. Had 56 gal. of syrup made today.

Thursday, Oct. 6th

Cloudy & windy - air cool - the first indications of autumn. Very wet evening, Dr. Walker came about dark to spend night.

Friday, Oct. 7th

India received letter from F. Lee M. stating that her father & mother had been sent out of their house by the Yankees, their furniture destroyed etc., the house made a hospital. Had compositions in school.

Saturday, Oct. 8th

Went to Lowndesville on business - horse was taken sick etc. Made syrup for Mrs. Tolbert. Evening cool & windy.

Sunday, October 9th

The first frost of the season - Thermometer at 30 - Long day, no preaching - spent most of the day reading "Pillow of Fire." Took with Joe C. in evening. Mrs. Burkhead's little negro buried. Granrie Terrie sick with diphtheria.

Monday, October 10th

Another cool morning - frost - day clear - Took tea with Carrie - walked home by moonlight.

Tuesday, Oct. 11th

Beautiful, pleasant day. After school went with children to gather walnuts - (gathered wagon load!!)
Wednesday, Oct. 12th

India had chill in the night - quite sick this morning. - At work making Alice pr. cloth shoes.

Mr. Pressly gave father's business up being unable to attend to it.

He leaves us regretting his departure.

Thursday, Oct. 13th

Cool & windy. Making syrup for Mrs. Burkhead.

Friday, Oct. 14th

Good news from the Georgia front.

Mrs. Mollie (Liddell) Cunningham died at 9 o'clock P. M.

Saturday, October 15th

Sarah & India went to Mr. Liddell's.

Went grape hunting with girls. Kate S. & Bettie J. fell in branch.

Finished pr. shoes for Alice.

Sunday, Oct. 16th

Mollie Liddell buried at Longcake. Remained at home. - beautiful day - indian Summer.

Monday, Oct. 17th

Fine day. Had two shoats put up to fatten (for experiment). Made an improved drill for boring brass, iron, etc.

Tuesday, Oct. 18th

Morning cool, dark, cloudy - every indication of a wet day - clear in afternoon.

Wednesday, Oct. 19th

Weather pleasant.

Thursday, Oct. 20th

Mr. Liddell & Willie Cunningham called for dinner. Wrote to J. J. Willard.
Friday, Oct. 21st

Had extracts read in school and general exercise in arithmetic. Went hunting at night with St. C. Lee, A. McC., Jno. W. & others - caught two 'coons.

Saturday, Oct. 22nd

Spent day at home engaged at various work in shop.

Sunday, Oct. 23rd

Staid at home. No preaching. Walked up to Carrie's in afternoon with children.

Monday, Oct. 24th

Had potatoes dug. Did some work in shop after school - made several "gravers." Sarah & Mrs. W. went to Abbeville.

Tuesday, Oct. 25th

Beautiful weather. Bought a dog and sent his hide to the tanyard. Paid $5.00 for dog and one dollar to have it skinned.

Wednesday, Oct. 26th

Cloudy - Signs of rain.

Thursday, Oct. 27th

Wet day - several pupils absent. Commenced a "home-spun" pocket-knife merely to "try my luck." Ceased raining after dark. Mrs. Liddell came to spend night.

Friday, Oct. 28th

Blustery day - cool and disagreeable. Aleck McCass (sp.) & Gid Johnson spent night with us & went O'possum hunting at night.

Saturday, Oct. 29th

Spent forenoon in shop - finished my pocket knife (Confederate).

Sunday, Oct. 30th

Attended church at R. River - Mr. Burkhead.
Monday, Oct. 31st

Cloudy. Leaves beginning to fall. The trees now wear the yellow hue of autumn.

November 1st

Windy day and cool ... Mr. Miller, a refugee from Georgia — died last night.

Nov. 2nd Wednesday

Very wet day — no school. Spent greater part of day at work in shop.

Thursday, Nov. 3rd

Damp drizzly day — dark cool & disagreeable. But few pupils in attendance in school.

Friday, Nov. 4th

Cold & windy. Heard from Decatur, the consoling news that Old Mrs. Floyd had gone North, and taken all our furniture with her!

Saturday, Nov. 5th

Made Alice pr. shoes. Carrie came to spend night.

Sunday, Nov. 6th

Preaching at Lowndesville — did not attend. Clear in morning — cloudy in afternoon, with sprinkles of rain.

Monday, Nov. 7th

Sunshine & showers — afternoon clear. Put faucet in "k-y ky" barrel.

Tuesday, Nov. 8th

Shower early in morning — cloudy day. At work putting up turning lathe.

Wednesday, Nov. 9th


Thursday, Nov. 10th

Rain before day. Put up the wheel of my "turning lathe" preparatory to going to work.
Friday, Nov. 11th
Up early - had band made for my machine and set it to work. Jos. Gibert left for home.

Saturday, Nov. 12th
Spent day in work shop - turned several fancy pipes - set machine in order.

Sunday, Nov. 13th
Attended church at R. River - cold day.

Monday, Nov. 14th

Tuesday, Nov. 15th
Weather cool - windy.

Wednesday, Nov. 16th
No school - the day set apart by Pres. Davis for public worship. Preaching at Lowndesville. Wrote to J. C. Moore, Augusta, Ga.

Thursday, Nov. 17th
Weather mild - beautiful. Had set of turning chisels made at Mr. Haskell's.

Friday, Nov. 18th
Made set of for chisels.

Saturday, Nov. 19th
Spent day at work in shop. rains & wind.

Sunday, Nov. 20th
Dark drizzly day. Theodore preached at Lowndesville. Rec'd call from Lt. Lewis Haskell - brought call of Adjt. Gen. for Militia to rendezvous at Hamburg. Went to Lowndesville to see W. A. Giles in reference to going into camp etc.
Monday, Nov. 21st

Very wet day. Cleared off about dark. No school. Finished my camp knife.

Tuesday, Nov. 22nd

Cold & windy. Thermometer 26. First ice I've seen this season - ground frozen. Dismissed my school at noon to make preparations to go into camp. Theodore left for Charleston.

Wednesday, Nov. 23rd

Another very cold day. Rec'd orders from Capt. Robertson to report in Hamburg on Saturday evening next. Making arrangements to leave for camp.

Thursday, Nov. 24th

Left home in afternoon for Hamburg. Reached Abbeville after dark and struck camp.

Friday, Nov. 25th

Left Abbeville at 8 o'clock and after a weary ride arrived at Columbia at 1 o'clock Saturday morning. Struck camp near depot.

Saturday, Nov. 26th

At Columbia. Walked over the city, visited the prison camp & Capt. Semmes Camp.

Sunday, Nov. 27th

Took cars (with company) at 4 A.M. and landed at Hamburg at 9 P.M. The Sabbath, but not a day of rest.

Monday, Nov. 28th

Went into camp 2 miles from Hamburg. Dr. Taggart & myself visited the City of Augusta - met with several acquaintances. Wrote to India.

Tuesday, Nov. 29th

Signs of rain. In camp without tents. Rec'd call from J. C. Moore.

Wednesday, Nov. 30th

Beautiful, pleasant day. Militia commenced drilling. Dress Parade,
Guard Mounting etc.

Thursday, Dec. 1st

The first day of winter. Delightful day. The air as fresh and balmy as a Spring Morning. Dr. Cunningham called at camp. Took dinner.

Friday, Dec. 2nd

Signs of rain. Lt. Giles & myself went to Augusta - called on J. C. Moore at Ga. R. R. depot. Returned to camp after-noon & met troops "enroute" for Depot to take train to Charleston. Remained at camp with baggage until late - spent night in Old Hotel Hamburg.

Saturday, Dec. 3rd

At Hamburg, up before day to take train - couldn't get baggage on cars - remained over until 12 o'clock. Spent fore-noon in Augusta. Reached 96 Mile Station about dark and struck camp.

Sunday, Dec. 4th

The sabbath, but not a day of rest. The train started at 5 A.M. and after a long weary ride in a box-car, reached Charleston before dark.

Spent night in car at C & Savannah R. R. Depot.

Monday, Dec. 5th

Train left depot at 4 A. M. and arrived at Grahamville in afternoon, having been delayed several times on the way. We (Lt. Giles & myself) joined our command at camp late in evening. Glad to have rest.

Tuesday, Dec. 6th

In camp, near Grahamville. Slept well last night & feel refreshed.

Orders came at 8 A.M. for company to go to the trenches.

Wrote to mine wife.

Wednesday, Dec. 7th

In trenches near Grahamville - wet disagreeable morning. The soldier's lot is a hard one! Returned to camp about noon.
Thursday, Dec. 8th

Removed camp to "Honey Hill" near the battle-field. Sick with cold.
Walked with Lt. Giles over the battle-field. (Oh cruel war!)

Friday, Dec. 9th

Cool & cloudy. Wrote to India. Orders were received to prepare immediately to march. Heavy and incessant canonading at Coosawatchie.
Reach Depot at Grahamville about noon and remained until sun-set at which time we took train for Coosawatchie, the scene of action.
After numerous marches and counter-marches found a resting place near Railroad bridge, with the embankment for our pillow, and an impene-trable marsh at our feet. Enjoyed several pleasant naps during night.
The air damp and mist during the night.

Saturday, Dec. 10th

Saturday Morning. Marched two miles up the rail-road and took position to assist in the expected engagement. Feel calm and resigned.
Evening. The day is past, and all quiet. Awaiting orders.

(At Tulifinny)

Sunday, Dec. 11th

"Welcome sweet day of rest" - but ah: there is no rest mid the turmoil and confusion of war!

Heavy showers of rain last night - as disagreeable in camp as possibly can be - the men wet and cold, no shelters, no rations. Heavy canonading in the direction of Savannah. Inspection of arms in afternoon and removal of camp. Wrote to India.

Monday, Dec. 12th

At "Tulifinny Works" - dull times in camp - the monotony being some-what broken by the occasional shelling of the cars by the Yanks.

Tuesday, Dec. 13th

Commenced drilling - the Cadets our drill masters. Very cold morning.
Signs of rain in evening.
Wednesday, Dec. 14th

Beautiful day. Our lines "shelled by the enemy" battery.

Thursday, Dec. 15th

A shell passed a few feet above my head and exploded 40 feet from me.
A "Cadet" had his hand torn off by shell.

Friday, Dec. 16th


Saturday, Dec. 17th

Lt. of the Guard on duty in camp. Made several arrests - negroes for gambling. Wrote to India.

Sunday, Dec. 18th

Sent letter and "shell" to India by Solomon. More quiet than usual in camp. 'Tis not like the day of rest at home!

Monday, Dec. 19th

Moved camp near Tulifinny Creek. Rec'd letter from India - the first received since left home - and answered it.

Tuesday, Dec. 20th

Heavy cannonading in the direction of Savannah. Rec'd orders to march - (11 o'clock A.M. seated on R. road near "Tulifinny Works" awaiting further orders). Struck camp for night. Furious cannonading before night. Rec'd letter from India.

Wednesday, Dec. 21st

Weather cold. On picket - unpleasant in the trenches. Wished to walk over Tulifinny Battle-field.

Thursday, Dec. 22nd

Was relieved from picket duty. Wrote to India. Lt. G. sick.

Friday, Dec. 23rd

Cold frost morning. Lt. Giles left camp, homeward bound, sick with measles.
Saturday, Dec. 24th

Weather moderating. Cannonading at intervals during day and night.
"Christmas Eve" - but no signs of Christmas in camp.

Sunday, Dec. 25th

"Christmas" - how unlike Christmas used to be at home - no "Christmas dinner" - no uniting with the little ones at home in gleeful pastime.
"When will this cruel war be over?" Indications of mirth in the enemy's camp, music, song etc. Cannonading during the day. Wrote to mine wife. No "Sabbath" here!

Monday, Dec. 26th

Showery during the night - wet and disagreeable in camp. Wrote to Dr. Holmes, Decatur, Ga. Henry Latimer accidently shot through ankle.

Tuesday, Dec. 27th

Went "on picket" in afternoon (5 o'clock P.M.). On the night of picket line - quiet calm evening - unusually clear. Yankee Band now discorsing sweet music such as "brings back the memory of other days." Have been thinking of the loved ones at home - wrote to India. Met with Lt. Corley, 47th Ga. Reg. Retired to rest in a ditch - a "pleasant" place.

Wednesday, Dec. 28th

Was aroused from sleep by shower of rain. Heavy thunder storm before day-light. Wrapped in my blanket and stood it like a soldier. Showery during the day. Finished letter to India.

Thursday, Dec. 29th

Weather cold. The enemy advanced upon our picket line before night and were repulsed. Remained some time in line of battle. Rec'd letter from India dated 21st inst. Pleasant to hear from my loved ones at home.

Friday, Dec. 30th

Quiet day. The pickets report one man killed in the engagement last
evening, and several guns captured. Spent part of fore-noon repairing and strengthening our breast works. Wrote to India and my little daughter. Lecture at night, Rev. Bodie.

Saturday, Dec. 31st

The last day of the week and the last of the year - weather cold and blustery - occasional showers of rain. The old year will soon be buried in the past. The pages of its history are written in blood. Dark and gloomy is the prospect before us - no beam of light in the distance greets the eye, no hope of peace!

"On the other side of Jordan
In the sweet fields of Eden
There is rest for the weary
There is rest for you."
1864 Cash Received

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>March 1st</td>
<td>Rec'd of Mrs. Alston (tuition 1864)</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; 4th</td>
<td>Capt. Candler (wages for service)</td>
<td>203.00</td>
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<td>&quot; 9th</td>
<td>T. T. Watters, for Board</td>
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<td>&quot;</td>
<td>J. R. McAllister (tuition 1863)</td>
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<td>&quot;</td>
<td>Mrs. Steele (tuition 1863)</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; 12th</td>
<td>Mr. Cooper (&quot; 1864)</td>
<td>40.00</td>
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| July 6th | of Judge Hook                                   | 124.00  |
| "      | Mr. Willard                                     | 10.00   |
Garden Memoranda
1864

Feb. 10th  Planted Onion-buttons.
"  11th    Sowed Kale, Mustard, Tomatto
"        "    Planted Eng. Peas, Radish.
"  12th    Sowed Cabbage seed.
"        "    Planted Onion Sets.
"  13th    Planted Irish Potatoes (9 rows)
"  26th    "    Beets & Ocra
March 3rd  "    Parsnips, Carrots
"        "    Sowed Onions & Leeks
"  4th     "    Cabbage & Salsify
"  12th    "    Salsify & Peas.
April 6th  Planted Beans, Radish, Tomato
"  7th     "    Squash.
"  9th     "    Cucumber.
"  11th    "    Cabbage, Beans.
"        "    Black Beans
April 13th Sowed Mustard
"        "    Beets
"  16th    Transplanted Cabbage
"  20th    Planted Butter beans.
"  23rd    "    Irish Potatoes. Sowed Cabbage.
May 7th    Planted Pepper, Cucumber.
"  10th    Transplanted Cabbage Tomatto.
"  16th    Planted Butter Beans
"        "    Cayenne Pepper
May 16th    Planted Pomegranate, Melons.
"  26th    "    Gherkins, Cucumbers etc.
June 17th   Transplanted Egg Plant.
My Tax Returns given in May 24th

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14 Negroes @ 535 5/7</td>
<td>$7,500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Horse &amp; Buggy</td>
<td>300.00</td>
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<td>Notes &amp; Accounts</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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Tax Paid $17.56

Confederate Tax Return given in at Decatur, Oct. 29th

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<th>Item</th>
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<tr>
<td>14 Negroes, valued at</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gold watch</td>
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<td>Buggy</td>
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<td>Money etc</td>
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<td>-------</td>
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<td>Cost of Wagon</td>
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</table>
Critical Exercise  1 Cor. 10. 1-5
Cop. Lecture  Gen. 2. 1-3
Sermon  Heb. 12. 2

Lat. Exegesis. "In sit Christus solus mediator ahud Denny."